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Applied Methods and Models of Knowledge Engineering in Information Based Health Assessment Systems

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Preface

The present volume is Final Report supposed to be submitted by schedule of works in accordance with the contract No. F61775 98-WE116. The Report describes all accomplishments, results and conclusions of the research for contract. In particular, it contains results of research on the following tasks:

- Mathematical analysis of existing diagnostic procedure utilizing statistical clustering and Bayes' techniques and further development of mathematical basis and algorithm for diagnostic model design.

As a whole, these results formed a new technology of assessment and prognosis of the probability of failure of the hardware like avionics;

- Development of software package implementing all steps of cluster analysis of statistical data and further phases of the developed technology.

This software made it possible to verify and validate the developed technology numerically. A peculiarity of the developed software is (1) the interactivity, (2) the utilization a computer graphics to facilitate previewing of the clustering pattern in particular subspaces and (3) the use of the modern software engineering environment like Visual C++ 5.0 and MS Access-97;

- Application of Algebraic Bayes' Network approach to various classes of applications of experts' analysis techniques to diagnostic related problem;
- Application of classical regression analysis to estimation of remaining life expectancy (residual performance resource) of hardware subjected to adverse effects.

Advantage of the developed regression model is that it is based on Dynamic Data Model (DDM) what has made it possible to design the regression model utilizing ideas of prognosis of time series.

All results provided by contract are presented in the sufficient details in the Final Report. Nevertheless, the Interim Report [IR-98] has to be considered as the indefeasible part of the former report because some aspects of the developed knowledge engineering technology for diagnostic related problem solving are considered in the latter in more details. In addition, Interim Report presented more numerical results which were not repeated in Final Report.

Final Report consists of six sections.

The *Section 1* is introductory. It outlines the application itself and related prognostic tasks, main focus of the research and contents of the Report.

Section 2 presents Dynamic Data Model that was developed as alternative to Static Data Model which was used for numerical validation of the developed prognostics model in the first phase of research resulting in Interim Report [IR-98].

Section 3 presents developed variants of the regression models and their comparative numerical analysis.

Section 4 describes main results related to the task of knowledge discovery from statistical database to design information-based health assessment system. This question is a focus of the research.

Section 5 is devoted to the application of Algebraic Bayes' Network approach to the diagnostic related knowledge engineering tasks. Theoretical part of the section coincides mainly with the respective material given in the Interim Report [IR-98]. In contrast, it contains much more numerical results which were calculated on the basis of the developed software.

Section 6 has to be considered as the general conclusion of the research. It outlines the main results, research contribution and summarizes the most perspective future research in the framework of prognostics and related topics of Knowledge Discovery from Data (KDD) technology.

This contents reflects the tasks formulated within contract.

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1. Introduction

Safe, reliable and efficient operation of avionics is crucial for a modern aircraft or spacecraft. While in operation, avionics components are exposed to electrical perturbations, mechanical vibrations, excessive temperatures, humidity, etc. These adverse conditions, acting individually and in combination, are known to have cumulative effects leading to avionics performance degradation and failures. Until recently, it was virtually impossible to obtain data characterizing performance of individual units. At the present, availability of dedicated monitoring systems and like devices allows for the collection of large amounts of actual data of any particular unit of aircraft hardware. Based on this data, modern Data Mining techniques, common in technology of Knowledge Discovery from Data (KDD), made it possible to facilitate formulation and solution of important on-line and off-line prognostic-related problems.

These new possibilities for hardware monitoring, for on-line and off-line prognostic related problem solving predetermined the tasks that are the subject of the contract. According to the contract the research presented in this Report aimed at the development of mathematical models, algorithms and software for solving the following tasks:

- accurate assessment of the probability of failure of hardware, such as avionics, on the basis of its known *history of abuse* by environmental and operational factors;
- prognosis of the probability of failure of hardware at a given time in the future, for example, at the end of the forthcoming sortie of the aircraft;
- accurate assessment of the residual performance resource of hardware on the basis of regression model and its known *history of abuse* by environmental and operational factors and known cumulative time of maintenance (number of sortie).

These task statement was prompted by the modern concept of maintenance known as the "service when needed" [Skormin et al-97]. Let us consider the peculiarity of the above task statement compared to the traditional one.

Traditionally, reliability of any technical device (electronic, electro-mechanical, and mechanical) is defined in terms of such characteristics as the average time of normal (no-failure) operation. These reliability concepts referring to a statistically-generic device may be considered acceptable as long as the failures are caused by the factors related to manufacturing. At the present, this approach is not always acceptable. Manufacturers of electronics, due to completely automated processes, have achieved a very high degree of reliability of their products and very little variation in properties from device to device. Manufacturing-related effects on failures of electronics are gradually becoming less significant. The main causes of failures are traced now to the individual operational and environmental conditions of particular units. Therefore, the average time of normal operation and other "traditional" reliability characteristics, defined without taking into account actual "history of abuse" of a device, are becoming less important.

Classical reliability had a good reason for addressing a statistically-generic device. At that time it was virtually impossible to obtain data characterizing performance of individual units in various operating environments. At the present, availability of Time-Stress Measurement Devices (TSMD) [Popyack-98], smart sensors and data acquisition systems makes possible to collect large amount of actual data of any particular unit of aircraft hardware. Based on this data, modern Data Mining techniques, common in Knowledge Discovery from Data (KDD) technology, facilitate formulation and solution of important on-line and off-line reliability-related problems. The most important problem is forecasting the probability of failure of flight-critical units of aircraft hardware during a forthcoming sortie. Solving such problem implies the investigation of the role of various environmental factors in the development of particular failures, investigation of combined effects of several factors, reevaluation of probability of failure on the basis of known exposure to particular adverse conditions, as well as development of special types of mathematical models and model-based techniques.

Data Mining and KDD address specific practical needs for solving above-mentioned problems. Data Mining provides a wide spectrum of available techniques and tools to develop a KDD technology focusing on design of a mathematical model for particular application ([Frawley et al -91], [Matheus et al 93], [Fayyad et al-95-1], [Fayyad et al 95-2], [Bradley et al-98-1]). It is well known that every particular application possesses specific properties that require either the ability to adapt already

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existing Data Mining techniques or develop new ones to build an adequate and efficient technology of original data processing aimed at a particular model development.

As per common understanding [Fayyad et al-95-1], a KDD process considered herein consists of a number of Data Mining procedures that, regardless of domain and particular task, conceptually, include such steps as (1) definition of the goal of the task, (2) collection or model-based generation of adequate statistical data and its preprocessing, (3) data reduction, transformation to find useful data patterns and its specifications and representations, including visualization if possible, (4) development of a KDD strategy that, actually, corresponds to the outline of the future technology as a number of steps of Data Mining, (5) selection, adaptation or development of Data Mining methods and algorithms intended for the realization of the accepted KDD technology (search of informative subsets of attributes and pattern of interest, separation and decision making rules creation, features, regression model development, etc.), (6) interpretation of the Data Mining results and incorporation of these results into a target model, (7) testing and validation of the resultant model.

Steps of this KDD process are usually iterative and interactive and are common for any KDD process. Nevertheless, from the algorithmic and implementation points of view, particular KDD processes may be implemented in very different ways. It is well known that the best universal approach does not exist. Moreover, the wider the area of possible utilization of an algorithm or approach, the lesser its efficiency. Therefore, taking into account the domain and task specifics, combined with the experience in KDD technology and Data Mining, assures the successful solution of any particular application problem. Then, following such a principle in the framework of tasks predetermined by contract, we developed an approach that consists of traditional steps of KDD process but its application reflects the following framework:

- peculiarities of the goal of the task (prognosis of probability of failure of avionics);
- original statistical data available for diagnostic and prognostic model design (for example, TSMD-based records of cumulative exposure to environmental factors and operational conditions);
- the need for a highly dependable model-based prognostic procedure;
- requirement of a reliable assessment of probabilities involved in the calculation of the probability of failure of a hardware even if the size of statistical data is small;

The Report is organized as follows.

In the first phase of research reflected in the Interim Report [IR-98] we considered «history of abuse» specified by the vector of adverse exposures of a unit operation and environmental conditions. This data model may be called “Static Data Model” (SDM), because it doesn’t take into account the history of failure development. It was reasonable to use such simplified data model to focus research on the mathematical aspects regarding the task of prognostics.

Unfortunately, SDM is not appropriate for development of the precise regression model aimed at residual performance resource forecasting. It will be justified below that to solve the last task we need a model that reflects *the history of failure development for a particular device*, i.e. we need a model that makes it possible to specify the «trajectory» of failure development for a particular unit. It is reasonable to call the model that makes it possible to obtain trajectory of failure development of a particular unit as “Dynamic Data Model” (DDM). In the next section (Section 2) we present the developed Dynamic Data Model.

Section 3 is devoted to the presentation of the developed variants of the regression models for the forecasting of the residual performance resource of the hardware and its comparative numerical analysis. It was obtained numerically that traditional regression model that doesn’t takes into account the history of a failure development of the particular device doesn’t possess the required precision of residual performance resource forecasting. Instead, the regression model designed on the basis of DDM model of failure development seems to be much more advantageous. The corresponding regression model was developed and is described in Section 3. Additionally, this section contains results of numerical investigation of the regression procedure parameters that are sensitive regarding to the precision of the assessed residual performance resource.

In Section 4, to assess probability of failure of avionics, the developed technology of the model-based prognosis system is presented. Actually, these results were presented in detail in the Interim Report [IR-98]. Nevertheless, they outlined here in brief and are extended by some new numerical

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results obtained due to newly developed software. This section contains a brief description of the heuristic informativity criteria that are used in a general case for the preliminary selection of informative subspaces of low dimension. These procedures are demonstrated numerically for two-dimensional case.

A notion of a classification predicate is defined and a number of approaches to obtain such predicates are proposed. We use a visualization technique that makes it possible for a developer to draw a separation bound of any arbitrary form approximated by linear spline and to generate the associated classification predicate automatically. Then we describe the main principle behind the design of decision trees and associated probabilistic spaces that form a set of decision procedures. Since the major purpose of the model under development in this section is the assessment of the probability of failure of a hardware unit, in *Section 4* we consider the way of improvement of the precision and reliability of this assessment using the small size of experimental data and experts' knowledge. We present the numerical results as an example of an implementation of the outlined technology for the development of a model-based prognostic procedure for a particular avionics module.

Section 5 is devoted to the application of Algebraic Bayes' Network approach to the diagnostic related knowledge engineering tasks. Theoretical part of the section coincides in main aspects with the respective material given in the Interim Report [IR-98]. In contrast, it contains much more numerical results that were calculated on the basis of additionally developed software.

Section 6 has to be considered as the general conclusion of the research. It outlines the main results, research contribution and summarizes the most perspective future research in the framework of prognostics and related topics of Knowledge Discovery from Data (KDD) technology. They may be considered as the topics of the proposals for eventual future research.

2. Dynamic Data Model of Failure Development

2.1. Dynamic Data Model vs. Static Data Model

According to the problem statement [IR-98] health assessment system of a device on the board of an aircraft aims at solving two major tasks:

- Evaluation of the residual performance resource, given “history of abuse”, and
- Prognosis of the probability of failure at a given time in the future, for example, at the end of the forthcoming sortie.

In the first phase of research reflected in the Interim Report [IR-98] we have considered «history of abuse» that was specified by the vector of adverse exposures of a device operation and environmental conditions. This data model may be called as “Static Data Model” (SDM), because it doesn't take into account the history of failure development of a particular device. It was reasonable to use such simplified data model to focus research on the mathematical aspects regarding the task of prognostics.

Unfortunately, SDM is not appropriate for development of the precise regression model of residual performance resource forecasting. It will be justified below that to solve the last task we need a model that reflects the history of failure development for a particular device, i.e. we need a model that makes it possible to specify the “trajectory” of failure development for a particular device. The latter is understood as ordered sequence of pairs $\langle t_i, X(t_i) \rangle$, where - t_i is the cumulative time of device performance, $X(t_i)$ - is the vector of adverse exposures at the time t_i . It is reasonable to call the model which enables to obtain trajectory of failure development of a particular device as “Dynamic Data Model” (DDM).

On the other hand, regression model for residual performance resource forecasting results in one more sensitive parameter that may be used for the failure prognostics. Therefore, utilization of DDM instead of SDM makes possible to extend vector of adverse exposures by one more component, for example, number of aircraft sortie. As a result DDM makes it possible to evaluate in more realistic way the mathematical basis of prognostic task solving developed on the first phase of research [IR-98] and to improve it if necessary. Below in this section we describe the developed DDM for information-based health assessment system which is intended to solve both tasks mentioned at the beginning of this section.

2.2. Properties of DDM and Assumptions

We aim at developing DDM that is provided by the following properties:

- correlation of components of the vector of adverse exposures $X(t)$ at a time t of maintenance of a device is known and specified by their correlation matrix $C_X(t,t)$ and standard deviations $\sigma_X(t) = [\sigma[x_1(t)], \sigma[x_2(t)], \dots, \sigma[x_n(t)]]^T = [\sigma_1(t), \sigma_2(t), \dots, \sigma_n(t)]^T$; these mathematical entities define covariance matrix $W_X(t_i, t_i) = M[(X(t_i) - \bar{X}(t_i))(X(t_i) - \bar{X}(t_i))]^T$ and, hence, random values of adverse exposures accumulated during a sortie of aircraft;
- mathematical expectation of adverse exposures per a sortie of any aircraft is constant and denoted by $M[\Delta X] = \Delta \bar{X}$ ¹;

¹ This assumption was accepted for simplicity of data model implementation and doesn't influence on the generality of data model itself.

2. Dynamic Data Model of Failure Development

- mathematical expectations of accumulated adverse exposures $M[X(t)] = \bar{X}(t)$ depends on the time t of device maintenance reflecting cumulative character of adverse factors;
- individual biases of mathematical expectations of adverse exposures $\delta\bar{X}(t, r)$ are randomized for every particular device number r , $r=1, 2, \dots, R$ (this property aims at taking into account the specific of manufacturing of a device and its maintenance conditions on the board of the particular aircraft);
- mutual correlation of the vectors of adverse exposures assigned to the different values of time of maintenance is specified by the matrix of mutual covariance $W_X(t_i, t_j) = M[(X(t_i) - \bar{X}(t_i))(X(t_j) - \bar{X}(t_j))]^T$ that is supposed to be computed numerically from a statistical data base;
- Realization of the random event $Q \in \{\text{«no failure», «failure»}\} = \{0, 1\}^1$ is defined according to the truth values of logical formulae $F \in \mathfrak{I}$ given over the linear terms $Y_s = a_{1s}x_1 + a_{2s}x_2 + \dots + a_{ns}x_n$, where component x_i , $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ are the components of the vector of adverse exposures, $a_{1s}, a_{2s}, \dots, a_{ns}$ - are real valued coefficients and s - is the index of the vector of adverse exposures.

Additional assumptions utilized within the developed DDM model are as follows:

- correlation matrix $C_X(t, t)$ and standard deviations $\sigma_X(t) = [\sigma_1(t), \sigma_2(t), \dots, \sigma_n(t)]^T$ are independent on the number of aircraft sortie, i.e. $C_X(t, t) = C_X$ and $\sigma_X(t) = \sigma_X$; therefore, covariance matrix $W_X(t_i, t_i) = W_X$ is constant as well;
- at average, each sortie of particular aircraft has 2 hours long; this assumption makes it possible to use the number of sortie (denote it by symbol k) as an equivalent of time and to deal with discrete parameter k instead of continuous one t ;
- number of device r may be identified as the aircraft number;
- distributions of random values elsewhere below are normal or uniform.

2.3. Numerical characteristics of DDM

Thus, DDM of failure development of each individual device (belonging to the aircraft) number r as it was introduced in the previous section is defined by the following data:

- covariance matrix W_X that can be calculated in standard way via correlation matrix C_X and vector of standard deviation σ_X ;
- mathematical expectations of adverse exposures $M[X(t)] = \bar{X}(t)$;
- individual biases of mathematical expectations of adverse exposures $\delta\bar{X}(k, r)$;
- number of sortie k of the concrete aircraft r and
- set of logic formulae $F_s \in \mathfrak{I}$ that determinate the conditions corresponding to a realization of the random event “failure”.

Therefore, DDM may be used for generation of realizations of trajectories $X(k, r)$ of failure development of a device on the board of the aircraft number $r=1, 2, \dots, R$. Below the information about adverse exposures and numerical data needed to generate the realizations of trajectories $X(k, r)$ are given.

¹ We consider binary status of device performance within the designed DDM. Notice, that in the classification problem statement (see *Section 4*) we consider one more value of device status.

2. Dynamic Data Model of Failure Development

2.3.1. Table of adverse exposures (database composition)

X_1	Vibration RMS, 1 - 2 g,	X_6	Environmental Temperature 15 - 0°C	X_{11}	Power Supply 1.1 - 1.3 nominal Vdc	X_{16}	Functional Overload 31 - 40% X_1
X_2	Vibration RMS, 3 - 4 g	X_7	Environmental Temperature 0 - 15°C	X_{12}	Power Supply over 1.3 nominal Vdc	X_{17}	Functional Overload 41 - 50%
X_3	Vibration RMS, over 4g	X_8	Environmental Temperature 50 - 75°C	X_{13}	Functional Overload 5 - 10% X_1	X_{18}	Air Pressure .3 - .7 nominal
X_4	Humidity, 20 - 50%	X_9	Environmental Temperature 76 - 100°C	X_{14}	Functional Overload 11 - 20% X_1	X_{19}	Air Pressure 1.1 - 1.3 nominal
X_5	Humidity, 70 - 95%	X_{10}	Power Supply .7 - .9 nominal Vdc	X_{15}	Functional Overload 21 - 30%	X_{20}	Residual Performance Resource (in hours)

One more column (#21) of Database composition contains the value of device status and is omitted in the above table of Database composition.

2.3.2. Covariance Matrix W_X

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	3.16e-002	-4.74e-004	-6.8e-003	1.43e-003	3.e-003	1.53e-003	3.63e-003
2	-4.74e-004	2.37e-003	-3.2e-004	8.08e-004	3.76e-004	9.2e-004	6.85e-004
3	-6.8e-003	-3.2e-004	2.32e-003	5.13e-004	-2.24e-004	1.84e-003	-4.73e-004
4	1.43e-003	8.08e-004	5.13e-004	0.103	-2.76e-002	6.89e-003	-2.69e-003
5	3.e-003	3.76e-004	-2.24e-004	-2.76e-002	9.59e-003	5.59e-003	5.45e-004
6	1.53e-003	9.2e-004	1.84e-003	6.89e-003	5.59e-003	0.14	-1.69e-002
7	3.63e-003	6.85e-004	-4.73e-004	-2.69e-003	5.45e-004	-1.69e-002	1.29e-002
8	1.69e-004	1.9e-005	-2.47e-004	-1.89e-003	-4.24e-004	-2.13e-002	2.75e-003
9	-2.75e-003	-1.71e-004	2.37e-004	-1.61e-003	-8.29e-004	-1.89e-002	1.18e-003
10	-2.69e-003	-1.85e-003	-8.63e-004	-8.08e-004	-1.29e-003	-1.04e-002	-1.23e-002
11	-2.24e-004	6.64e-004	1.23e-003	7.55e-004	4.28e-004	1.77e-002	-2.69e-003
12	1.04e-003	6.27e-004	3.44e-004	6.31e-004	6.34e-004	7.14e-003	4.27e-003
13	9.66e-003	1.89e-003	-1.99e-003	2.78e-003	3.18e-004	2.86e-003	2.91e-003
14	4.65e-003	1.38e-003	-7.41e-004	2.1e-003	8.e-004	9.34e-004	1.86e-003
15	7.9e-003	-2.76e-004	-1.99e-003	1.16e-003	4.87e-004	-4.3e-003	1.23e-003
16	-6.64e-003	-9.56e-004	1.54e-003	-1.96e-004	-1.07e-003	-2.02e-003	-8.59e-004
17	-7.07e-003	-7.76e-004	1.07e-003	-1.1e-003	-8.69e-004	-4.84e-003	-5.58e-004
18	-7.17e-005	-1.39e-004	-4.03e-005	4.24e-003	-9.16e-004	9.74e-003	-1.86e-003
19	6.27e-004	2.07e-004	2.17e-005	-3.55e-003	1.02e-003	-7.69e-003	1.53e-003

Covariance Matrix W_X (continuation)

	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	1.69e-004	-2.75e-003	-2.69e-003	-2.24e-004	1.04e-003	9.66e-003
2	1.9e-005	-1.71e-004	-1.85e-003	6.64e-004	6.27e-004	1.89e-003
3	-2.47e-004	2.37e-004	-8.69e-004	1.23e-003	3.44e-004	-1.99e-003
4	-1.89e-003	-1.61e-003	-8.08e-004	7.55e-004	6.31e-004	2.78e-003
5	-4.24e-004	-8.29e-004	-1.29e-003	4.28e-004	6.34e-004	3.18e-004
6	-2.13e-002	-1.89e-002	-1.04e-002	1.77e-002	7.14e-003	2.86e-003
7	2.75e-003	1.18e-003	-1.23e-002	-2.69e-003	4.27e-003	2.91e-003
8	4.57e-003	3.21e-003	-2.5e-003	-7.7e-004	5.44e-004	-3.39e-003
9	3.21e-003	3.83e-003	-4.37e-004	-1.25e-003	8.09e-005	-7.03e-003
10	-2.5e-003	-4.37e-004	4.55e-002	-1.23e-002	-1.75e-002	2.61e-003
11	-7.7e-004	-1.25e-003	-1.23e-002	8.89e-002	-2.89e-003	-1.32e-002
12	5.44e-004	8.09e-005	-1.75e-002	-2.89e-003	8.24e-003	-7.38e-003
13	-3.39e-003	-7.03e-003	2.61e-003	-1.32e-002	-7.38e-003	0.187
14	-1.82e-004	-4.17e-005	-2.21e-003	5.29e-004	-8.19e-004	-2.01e-002
15	2.5e-003	1.93e-003	-3.86e-003	7.73e-003	3.86e-003	-5.32e-002
16	1.31e-003	2.73e-003	-3.3e-003	9.42e-003	2.68e-003	-4.61e-002
17	1.43e-003	2.38e-003	-8.66e-004	7.e-004	1.49e-003	-2.97e-002
18	-1.87e-003	-1.78e-003	3.24e-003	-3.18e-003	-9.08e-004	2.66e-003
19	1.56e-003	1.37e-003	-2.73e-003	2.65e-003	8.69e-004	-3.53e-003

2. Dynamic Data Model of Failure Development

Covariance Matrix W_X (continuation)

X	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	4.65e-003	7.9e-003	-6.64e-003	-7.07e-003	-7.17e-005	6.27e-004
2	1.38e-003	-2.76e-004	-9.56e-004	-7.76e-004	-1.39e-004	2.07e-004
3	-7.41e-004	-1.99e-003	1.54e-003	1.07e-003	-4.03e-005	2.17e-005
4	2.1e-003	1.16e-003	-1.96e-004	-1.1e-003	4.24e-003	-3.55e-003
5	8.e-004	4.87e-004	-1.07e-003	-8.69e-004	-9.16e-004	1.02e-003
6	9.34e-004	-4.3e-003	-2.02e-003	-4.84e-003	9.74e-003	-7.69e-003
7	1.86e-003	1.23e-003	-8.59e-004	-5.58e-004	-1.86e-003	1.53e-003
8	-1.82e-004	2.5e-003	1.31e-003	1.43e-003	-1.87e-003	1.56e-003
9	-4.17e-005	1.93e-003	2.73e-003	2.38e-003	-1.78e-003	1.37e-003
10	-2.21e-003	-3.86e-003	-3.3e-003	-8.66e-004	3.24e-003	-2.73e-003
11	5.29e-004	7.73e-003	9.42e-003	7.e-004	-3.18e-003	2.65e-003
12	-8.19e-004	3.86e-003	2.68e-003	1.49e-003	-9.08e-004	8.69e-004
13	-2.01e-002	-5.32e-002	-4.61e-002	-2.97e-002	2.66e-003	-3.53e-003
14	6.35e-002	-1.47e-002	-7.26e-003	-3.05e-003	-2.7e-004	4.17e-004
15	-1.47e-002	3.79e-002	1.35e-002	7.56e-003	-1.21e-003	1.8e-003
16	7.26e-003	1.35e-002	1.89e-002	1.09e-002	-1.22e-003	1.04e-003
17	-3.05e-003	7.56e-003	1.09e-002	8.73e-003	-8.04e-004	5.23e-004
18	-2.7e-004	-1.21e-003	-1.22e-003	-8.04e-004	2.11e-003	-1.46e-003
19	4.17e-004	1.8e-003	1.04e-003	5.23e-004	-1.46e-003	1.38e-003

While designing the correlation matrix W_X we took into account the actually existing dependencies between adverse factors. These dependencies were extracted from the expert.

The correlation of adverse exposures $x_1 - x_{19}$, on the one hand, and residual performance resource x_{20} , on the other hand, have to be computed via simulation.

2.3.3. Vector of standard deviations σ_X

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x_1) &= 0.18, \sigma(x_2) = 0.049, \sigma(x_3) = 0.048, \sigma(x_4) = 0.321, \sigma(x_5) = 0.097, \sigma(x_6) = 0.04, \\ \sigma(x_7) &= 0.113, \sigma(x_8) = 0.068, \sigma(x_9) = 0.061, \sigma(x_{10}) = 0.067, \\ \sigma(x_{11}) &= 0.198, \sigma(x_{12}) = 0.09, \sigma(x_{13}) = 0.432, \sigma(x_{14}) = 0.252, \sigma(x_{15}) = 0.195, \sigma(x_{16}) = 0.137, \\ \sigma(x_{17}) &= 0.934, \sigma(x_{18}) = 0.046, \sigma(x_{19}) = 0.037. \end{aligned}$$

According to the well known algorithm components of the covariance matrix W_X of the vector $X(k, r)$ was calculated as follows:

$$W_X(x_i, x_j) = c_X(i, j) \times \sigma_i \sigma_j,$$

where $c_X(i, j)$ - are the elements of the correlation matrix C_X .

2.3.4. Predicate F : description of the status "failure"

$$F_1 = \{x_5 \geq 25\}, F_2 = \{x_{12} \geq 27\}, F_3 = \{x_9 \geq 28\}, F_4 = \{x_{19} \geq 27\},$$

$$F_5 = \{0.1 \times x_1 + 0.2 \times x_2 + 0.7 \times x_3 \geq 30\} = \{Y_1 \geq 30\},$$

$$F_6 = \{0.05 \times x_6 + 0.1 \times x_7 + 0.20 \times x_8 + 0.6 \times x_9 + 0.04 \times x_5 - 0.01 \times x_4 \geq 30\} = \{Y_2 \geq 30\},$$

$$F_7 = \{0.02 \times x_{10} + 0.3 \times x_{11} + 0.68 \times x_{12} \geq 30\} = \{Y_3 \geq 30\},$$

$$F_8 = \{0.02 \times x_{13} + 0.08 \times x_{14} + 0.1 \times x_{15} + 0.3 \times x_{16} + 0.5 \times x_{17} \geq 30\} = \{Y_4 \geq 30\},$$

$$Y_5 = \{0.3 x_{18} + 0.7 x_{19}\},$$

$$Y_6 = \{1.5 x_5 - 0.5 x_4\},$$

$$FZ1 = \{0.2 \times Y_1 + 0.25 \times Y_2 + 0.3 \times Y_3 + 0.2 \times Y_5 + 0.05 \times Y_6 \geq 20\} = \{Z_1 \geq 20\},$$

$$FZ2 = \{0.2 \times Y_2 + 0.2 Y_3 + 0.4 \times Y_4 + 0.1 \times Y_5 + 0.1 \times Y_6 \geq 15\} = \{Z_2 \geq 15\},$$

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$$FZ3 = \{0.15 \times Y_1 + 0.25 \times Y_3 + 0.4 \times Y_4 + 0.1 \times Y_5 + 0.1 \times Y_6 \geq 16\} = \{Z_3 \geq 16\},$$

$$FF = \{0.2 \times Z_1 + 0.4 \times Z_2 + 0.4 \times Z_3 \geq 17\}.$$

The logic condition of the event "failure" is as follows:

$$F = F_1 \vee F_2 \vee F_3 \vee F_4 \vee F_5 \vee F_6 \vee F_7 \vee F_8 \vee FZ1 \vee FZ2 \vee FZ3 \vee FF = "true".$$

Otherwise the status of the device is "no failure".

2.4. Generation of trajectories of failure development

We suppose that increment of adverse exposures per sortie consists of two components. One of them is randomized bias $\Delta X(k, r) = [\delta x_1(k, r), \delta x_2(k, r), \dots, \delta x_{19}(k, r)]$ that has individual distribution for each device r and depends on the number of sortie k as well, and the second one is a random value $\Delta X(k)$ which distribution is independent on the individual properties of aircraft. We suppose that both of them have equal matrices of correlation and individual values of standard deviations.

Since the components of these vectors of adverse factors are correlated, each point of trajectory within DDM is generated in a number of steps. They are as follows:

1. Transformation of the vector of adverse factors to the form with non-correlated components.

Since we supposed in DDM that components of the random vector of adverse exposures X are correlated we have to use special algorithm of generation of its realization [see, for example, [Fukunaga-72].

Let W_X be the covariance matrix of the vector $\Delta X(k)$ of increment of adverse exposures per sortie number k of aircraft, and let B, Λ be matrices of eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the covariance matrix W_X . Then

$$W = B^T \Lambda B$$

and $Y = B^T X$ is a vector which components are non-correlated and distributed normally with

$$\sigma(y_i) = \sqrt{\lambda_i}, \text{ where } \lambda_i \text{ - is } i\text{-th diagonal element of the matrix } \Lambda.$$

Thus, in the first step of the algorithm it is necessary to calculate matrices B and Λ as well as $\sigma(y_i) = \sqrt{\lambda_i}$.

2. Generation of the trajectories of failure development in terms of vector Y .

For $r=1, 2, \dots, R$

For $i=1, 2, \dots, 19$

$$\Delta y_i(0, r) = 3\sigma(y_i) + \xi \quad (\xi \text{ - is normal random value having } M[\xi] = 0 \text{ and } \sigma(\xi) = \sigma(y_i))$$

$$\sigma(\xi) = \sigma(y_i))$$

$$\delta y_i(0, r) = \alpha \Delta y_i(0, r) \quad (\alpha \text{ - is uniform random value, } \alpha \in [0, \bar{\alpha}], \text{ we use } \bar{\alpha} = 0.1).$$

$$x_i(0, r) = 0 \text{ end } i.$$

$k=0$.

While $\neg F$ do $k=k+1$

For $i=1, 2, \dots, 19$

$$\delta y_i(k, r) = \delta_i(0, r) + \Delta y_i(0, r) \times \beta, \text{ where } \beta \text{ - is uniform random value, } \beta \in [0, 0.1];$$

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$\Delta y_i(k, r) = \gamma(3\sigma_i + \xi)$ (ξ - is normal random value having $M[\xi] = 0$ and $\sigma(\xi) = \sigma(y_i)$, where γ - is uniform random value, $\gamma \in [0, 1 - \alpha - \beta]$)
 $\Delta y_i(k, r) = \delta y_i(k, r) + \Delta y_i(k, r)$ end i.

3. Inverse transformation of the vector ΔY to the vector ΔX :

$$\Delta X(k, r) = B \Delta Y(k, r)$$

4. Calculation of the vector of cumulative adverse exposures

$$X(k, r) = X(k - 1, r) + \Delta X(k, r)$$

end k. {Result: trajectory of failure development for given device (aircraft) # r}
end r

2.5. Simulation of DDM

The above DDM model implemented within Visual C++ 5.0 and Access 97 Data Base environment was used to generate statistical dynamic data supposed to be used for numerical validation of the developed mathematical model and algorithms of health assessment system and regression model. In the fig.2.1 – fig.2.4 the trajectories of failure development for selected adverse exposures for 25 samples of a device (aircraft) are given. In these figures horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie and vertical one corresponds to the value of cumulative exposure of respective adverse factor. Each trajectory consists of 60-120 points. Let us remind that the average duration of a sortie is equal to 2 hours long.

Each trajectory (a case) corresponds to a triple $\langle k, r, X(k, r) \rangle$ where k – is the number of sortie, r - is the number of device (aircraft), $X(k, r)$ – is the vector of cumulative adverse exposure at the end of the sortie number k . In *Appendix A1* the trajectories for more components of adverse exposures development among factors $x_1(k, r) - x_{19}(k, r)$ are given.

Each trajectory has a final point that corresponds to the status “failure” of the device. Since the number of sortie at this point is known and we supposed that each sortie has 2 hours long, we can map each point of trajectory by one more purposeful variable, i.e. by variable $\tau(k, r)$ that has the sense of residual performance resource. Indeed, if $k_f(r)$ is the number of sortie that corresponds to the event “failure” and Δt is the duration of each sortie then

$$\tau(k, r) = k_f(r) \times \Delta t - k(r) \times \Delta t = [k_f(r) - k(r)]\Delta t. \quad (2.1)$$

Formula (2.1) makes it possible to map each point of all trajectories of failure development by the value of residual performance resource $\tau(k, r)$. On the one hand, this mapping extends the statistical data in the way that makes possible to design a regression model (see *Section 3*). On the other hand, this mapping makes it possible to obtain one more sensitive parameter for prognosis the probability of failure at a given time in the future. In the fig.2.5 – fig.2.8 we depicted the trajectories of failure development in terms of the adverse factors but used the horizontal axis marked by the variable $\tau(k, r)$. In *Appendix A1* such trajectories are given for more components of adverse exposures development.

2.6. Interpretation of Simulated Data

Representation of statistical data in the form of the multitude of trajectories of failure development gives a new insight on the data interpretation. Formally, all points of any trajectory where $k(r) < k_f(r)$ correspond to the device status “no failure”. Nevertheless, it is intuitively clear that the points that are proximate to the points $X(k_f, r)$ form the “border-line” class of device

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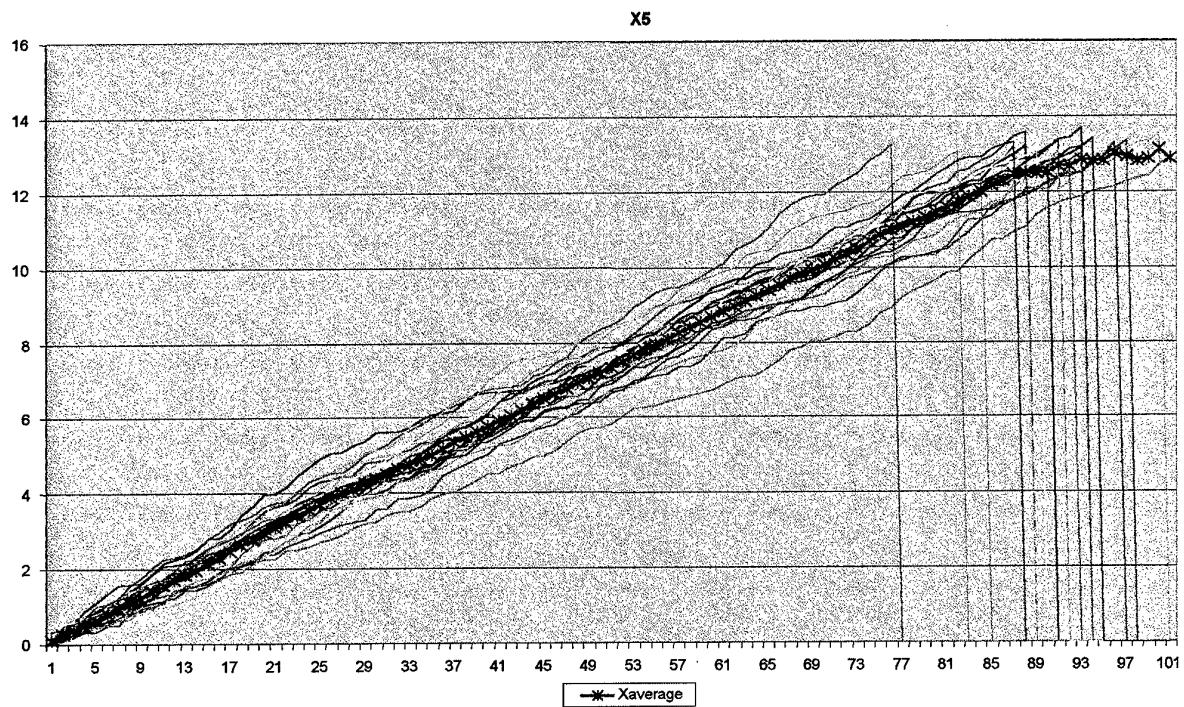


Fig.2.1. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_5 as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

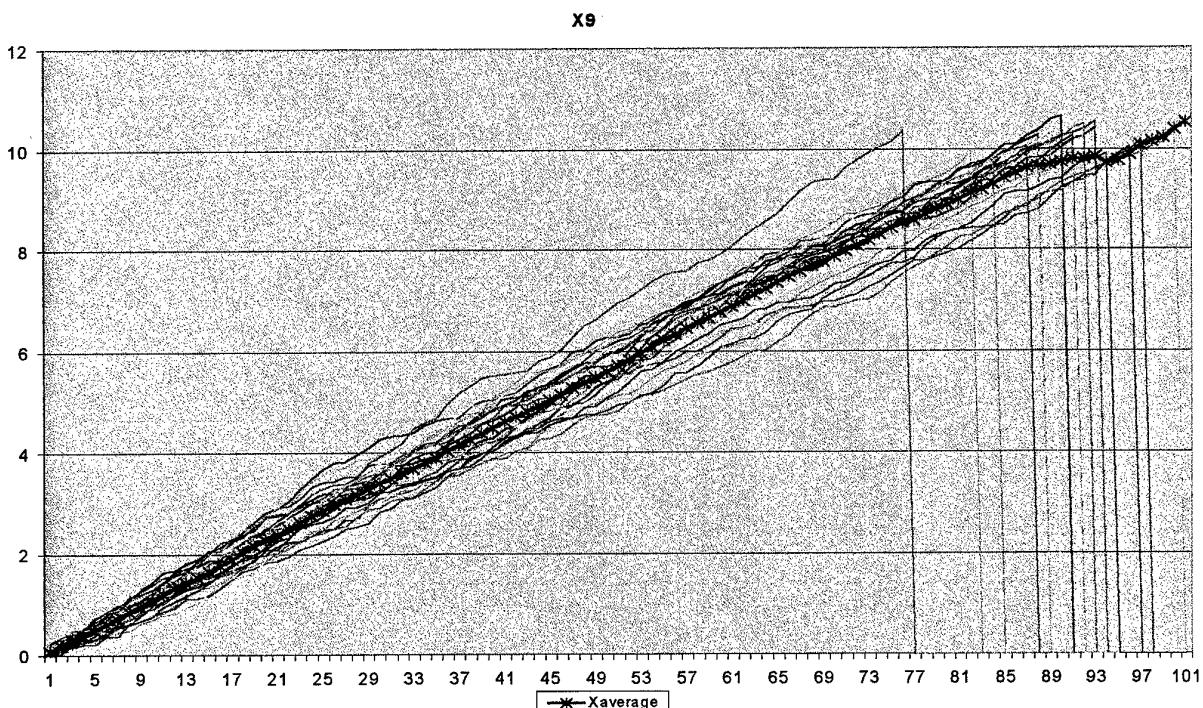


Fig.2.2. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_9 as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

2. Dynamic Data Model of Failure Development

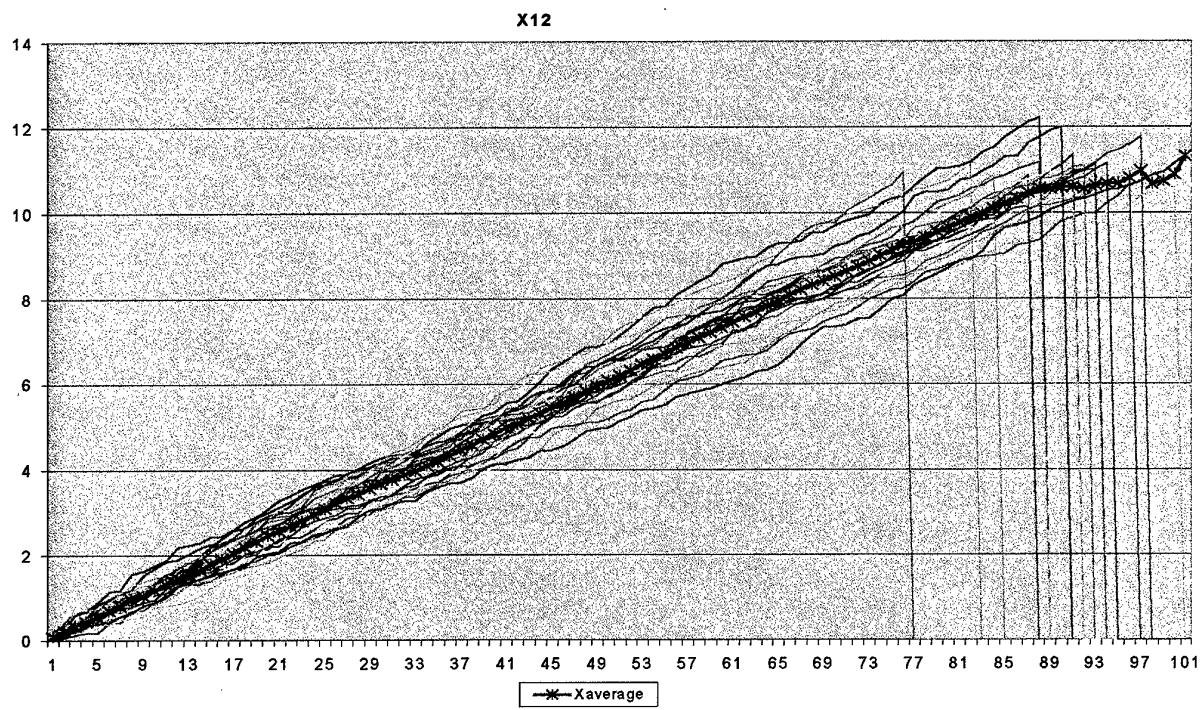


Fig.2.3. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{12} as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

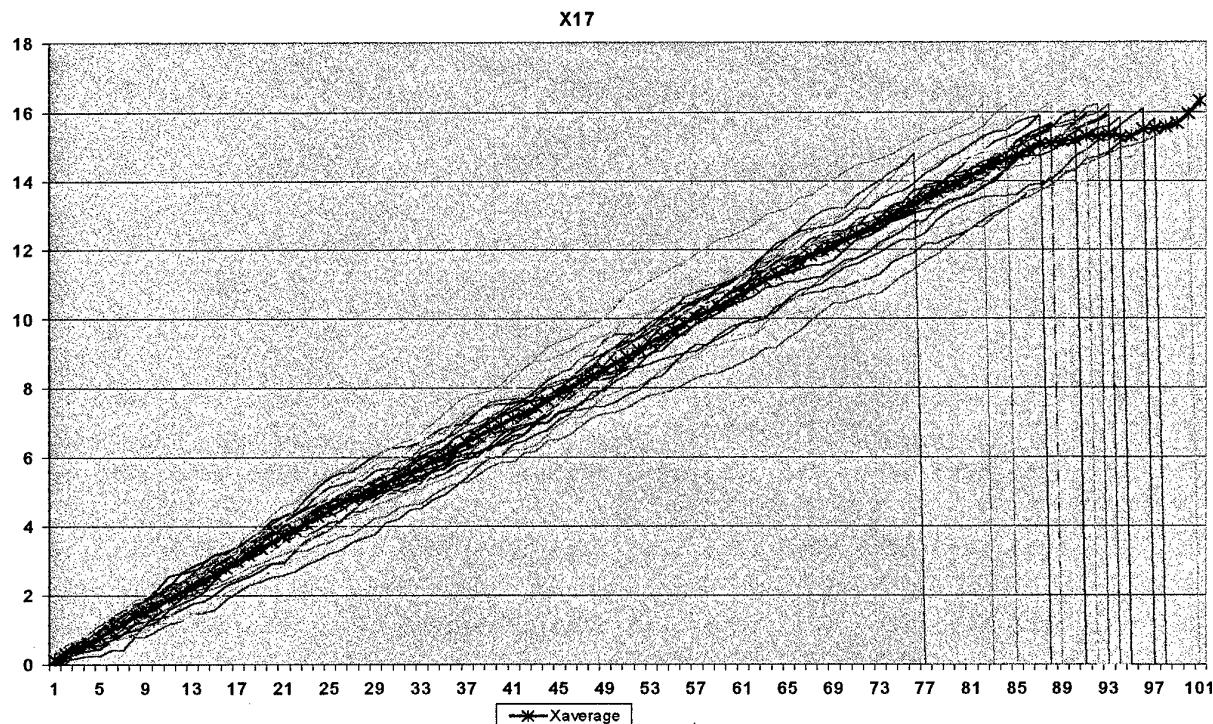


Fig.2.4. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{17} as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

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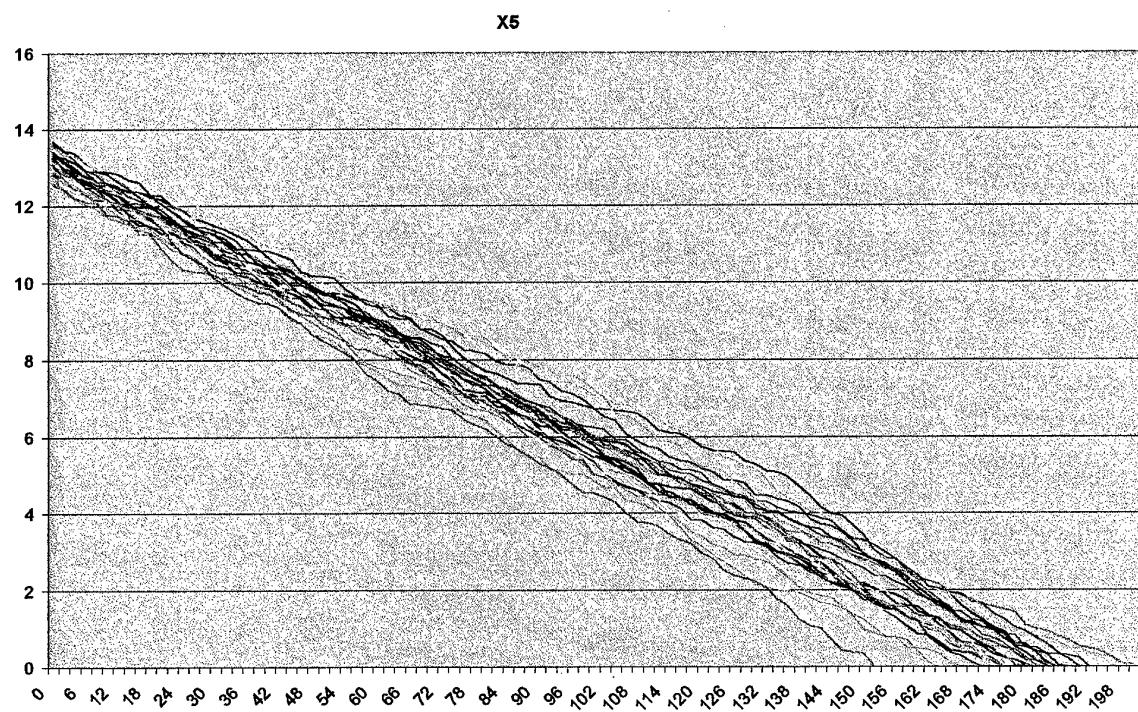


Fig.2.5. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_5 as the functions of residual performance resource

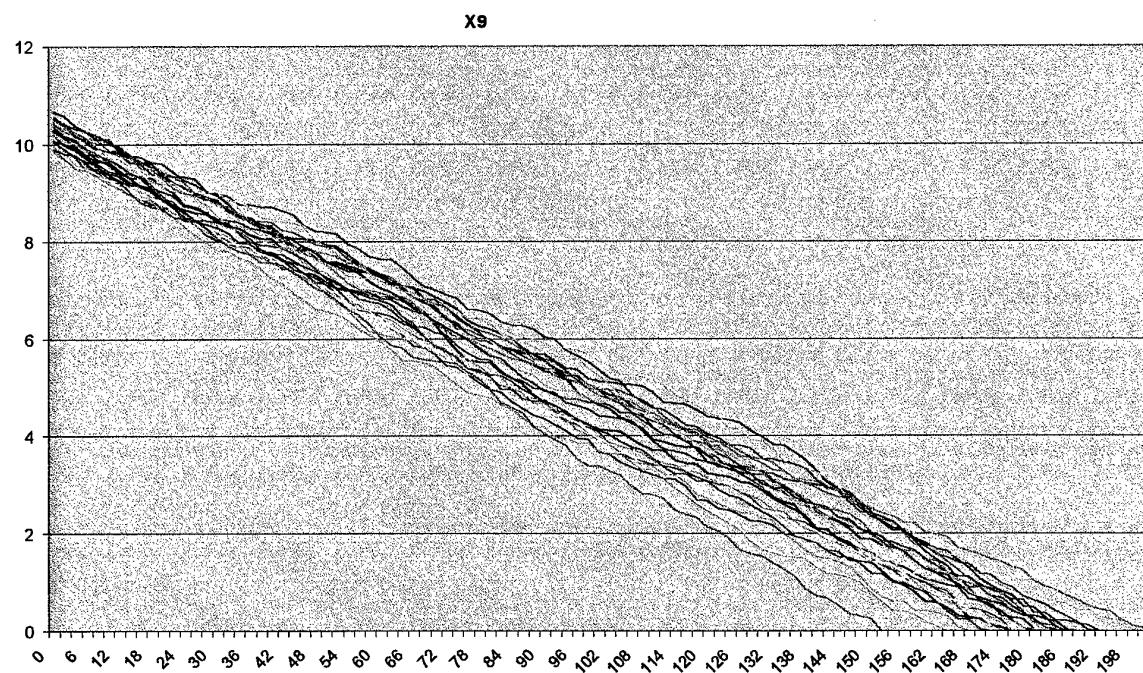


Fig.2.6. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_9 as the functions of residual performance resource

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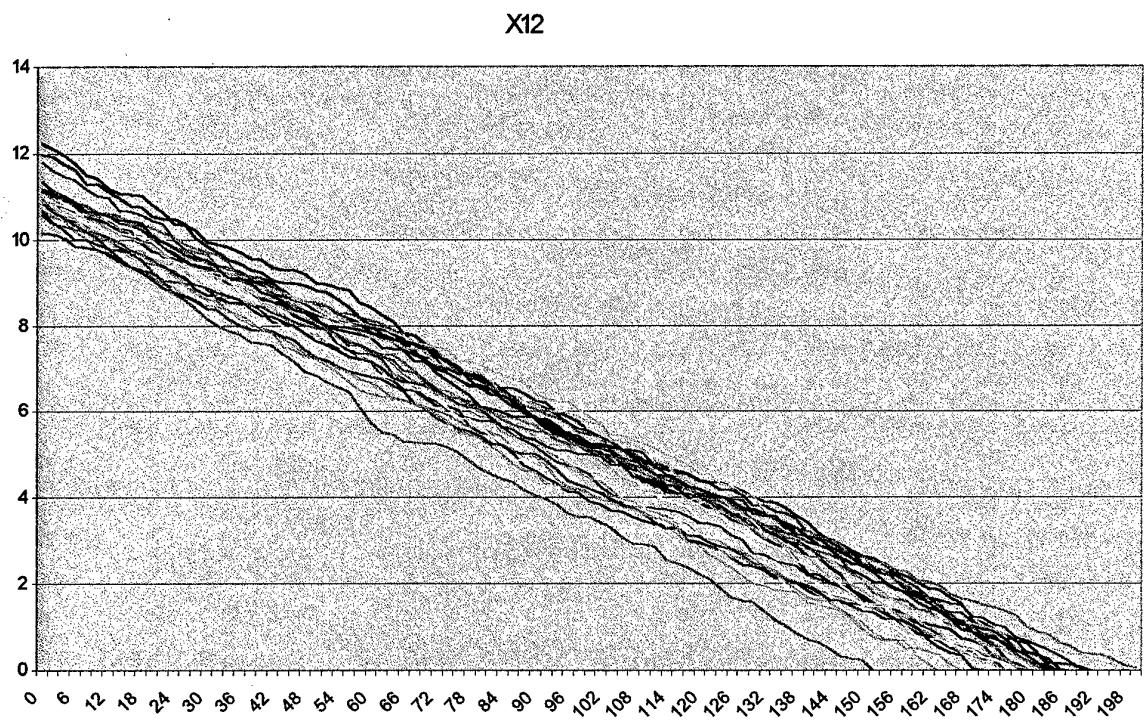


Fig.2.7. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{12} as the functions of residual performance resource

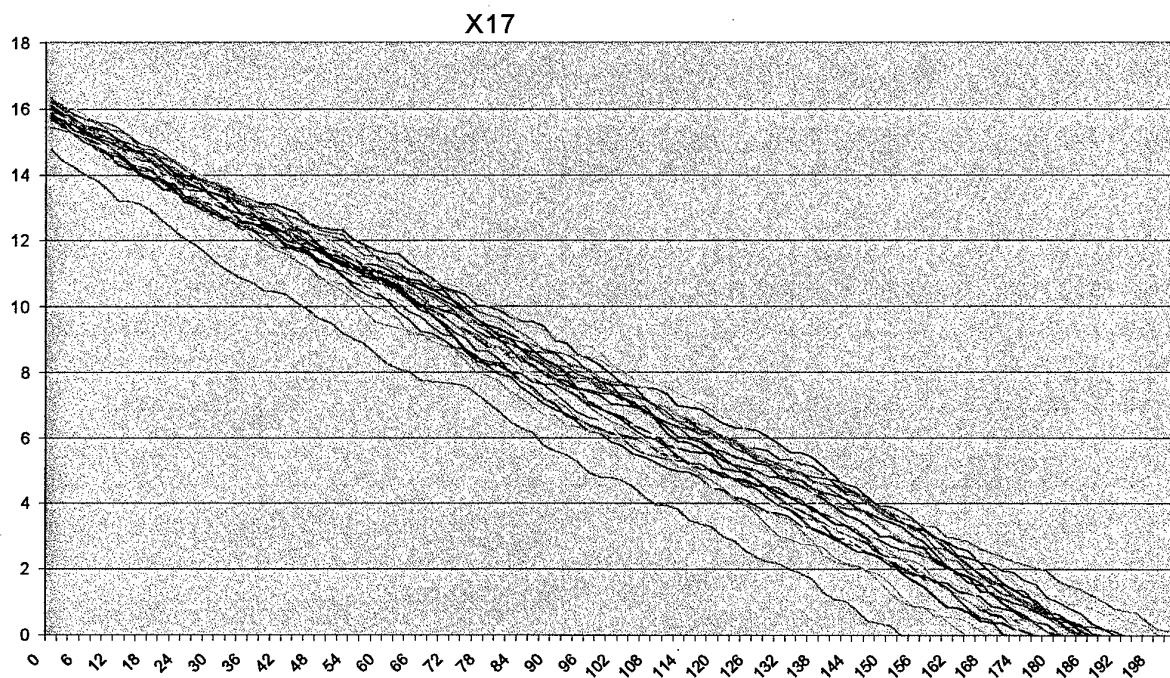


Fig.2.8. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{17} as the functions of residual performance resource

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status which has to be learnt together with traditionally considered binary statuses “*no failure*”-“*failure*”.

This consideration is the reason of new database model used below for numerical validation of the developed mathematical model and algorithms of healthcare assessment system design. We used statistical database in which every case is assigned by a value of failure status from the set {“*no failure*”, “*border-line*”, “*failure*”}={-1, 0, 1}.

In *Appendix A2* the generated statistical database is given. It contains 200 cases $X(k,r)$ each extended by the value of residual performance resource $\tau(k,r)$. These cases are used for knowledge engineering procedures to develop classification rules. 200 more cases of this database are used for testing of the resulting classification rules.

Let us note that cases included in database were chosen randomly among the points of all trajectories generated via DDM. As a result, we design a database of the same representation as one used in Interim Report [IR-98]. The main distinction of these databases is that the latter used 3-valued interpretation of the status of devices performance. Let us consider this question in more details.

Together with conventionally used values of performance status “*no failure*”, “*failure*”, in this report we use one more value of status, i.e. the value “*border-line*”. This status is determined as follows:

$$\text{If } X \notin \{“\text{failure}”\} \text{ and } 0 < x_{20} \leq \bar{\tau} \text{ then } X \in \{“\text{border-line}”\}, \quad (2.2)$$

where {“*failure*”} - is the multitude of cases of database having status of performance “*failure*”; and {“*border-line*”} - is the multitude of all cases that have status of performance “*border-line*”; the value $\bar{\tau}$ - is a threshold of residual performance resource admissible to believe that status of device performance is “*no failure*”. Below we accept the value of threshold as follows: $\bar{\tau} = 20$. This choice was conditioned by precision of regression model of the residual performance resource forecasting (see *Section 3*).

Numerical results obtained via DDM developed in this section turned out convenient to test the basic algorithms of the proposed prognostic model numerically (see *Section 4*).

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

3.1. Problem Statement and Traditional Approach

In this section we consider the task of regression model design for residual resource assessment. We suppose that initial information needed for design of the above model is given in the form of the statistical database of trajectories of failure development. The samples of such trajectories are depicted in the fig.2.4-fig.2.8 (Also see *Appendix A1*).

The simplest formal problem statement of regression model design is as follows. It is given database of cases $\langle X, \tau \rangle$, where X – is vector of cumulative exposures of adverse factors, τ – is the value of residual performance resource. The task is to design a function $\tau = f(X)$. Traditional regression model might be designed in the following way. Let us introduce the extended vector $\vec{X}^T = [X^T, \tau]$. While having database, we are able to calculate the vector of mathematical expectation and covariance matrix of the vector $\vec{X}^T = [X^T, \tau]$. Let us represent them as follows:

$$M[\vec{X}] = M[X^T, \tau]^T = [\bar{X}^T, \bar{\tau}]^T, \quad (3.1)$$

$$W[\vec{X}, \vec{X}] = \begin{bmatrix} W[X, X] & W[X, \tau] \\ W[\tau, X^T] & W[\tau, \tau] \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3.2)$$

where \bar{X} , $\bar{\tau}$ – are mathematical expectations of the respective variables and $W(*, *)$ are covariance matrices of the variables within squared brackets

Dimensions of the blocks in matrix $W[\vec{X}, \vec{X}]$ correspond to the following scheme:

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \times n & n \times 1 \\ 1 \times n & 1 \times 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 19 \times 19 & 19 \times 1 \\ 1 \times 19 & 1 \times 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In terms of accepted denotations the regression equation $\tau = f(X)$ is as follows:

$$\bar{\tau}(X) = M[\tau / X] = \bar{\tau} + W[\tau, X]W[X, X]^{-1}[X - \bar{X}]. \quad (3.3)$$

But this equation is not appropriate in practice because it doesn't depend on such a sensitive variable as number of sortie k . DDM described in the previous section makes it possible to design the more sophisticated and precise regression model.

3.2. DDM-based Regression Model

Let us consider database generated by DDM. For this database we are able to map each point of trajectory by the argument value "number of sortie", and to calculate the value of variable "residual performance resource". This means that we may design regression model in the following form ([Rao-71], [Anderson-60]):

$$\bar{\tau}(X, k) = M[\tau(k) / X(k)] = \bar{\tau}(k) + W[\tau(k), X(k)]W[X(k), X(k)]^{-1}[X(k) - \bar{X}(k)] \quad (3.4)$$

Comparing to the previous case (3.3), the peculiarity of the regression model (3.4) is that all statistics (mathematical expectations and matrices of covariance) are computed on the basis of sampling mapped by the same value of the number of sortie. Algorithm of their calculations are well known ([Rao-71], [Anderson-60]).

The next step of regression model improvement is the use of history of failure development and autoregression. Actually, for each sortie number k of an aircraft r the history $\{X(1, r), X(2, r), \dots, X(k, r)\}$ is known. This history may be used to improve regression model in the following way.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

Let us choose an integer value m . We say that regression model has the *depth of memory* equal to m if for any sortie number k the values of $X(k-m), X(k-m+1), \dots, X(k-1), X(k)$ are used for the regression model design. Let us show how the regression model of the depth m may be designed.

Let us introduce denotation $\vec{X}(k) = \langle X(k), \tau(k) \rangle$ that is the vector of adverse factors extended by the value of residual performance resource at the end of a sortie of number k . Let us calculate the following covariance matrices associated with the vectors $\vec{X}(k-m), \vec{X}(k-m+1), \dots, \vec{X}(k)$:

$$W[\vec{X}(k-m), \vec{X}(k-m)], W[\vec{X}(k-m), \vec{X}(k-m+1)], \dots, W[\vec{X}(k-m), \vec{X}(k)];$$

$$W[\vec{X}(k-m+1), \vec{X}(k-m+2)], \dots, W[\vec{X}(k-m+1), \vec{X}(k)]$$

$$\dots$$

$$W[\vec{X}(k), \vec{X}(k)]$$

To reduce the above task to the standard form (3.4) of the regression model design let us compose the following block-wise matrices:

$$W[X(k,m)] = \begin{bmatrix} W[X(k-m), X(k-m)] & W[X(k-m), X(k-m+1)] & \dots & W[X(k-m), X(k)] \\ W[X(k-m+1), X(k-m)] & W[X(k-m+1), X(k-m+1)] & \dots & W[X(k-m+1), X(k)] \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ W[X(k), X(k-m)] & W[X(k), X(k-m+1)] & \dots & W[X(k), X(k)] \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.5)$$

$$W[k, m, X, \tau] = [W[X(k-m), \tau(k)] \ W[X(k-m+1), \tau(k)] \ \dots \ W[X(k), \tau(k)]] \quad (3.6)$$

and

$$W[k, m, \tau] = \begin{bmatrix} W[X(k, m)] & W[k, m, X, \tau] \\ W^T[k, m, X, \tau] & \sigma^2[\tau(k)] \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.7)$$

As well let us suppose that all mathematical expectations used below are calculated.

Let we know the history of adverse exposures along the trajectory of failure development $X(k-m), X(k-m+1), \dots, X(k)$. Let us denote this history as follows:

$$\mathbf{X}(k, m) = [X^T(k-m), X^T(k-m+1), \dots, X^T(k)]^T, \quad (3.8)$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}}(k, m) = M[\mathbf{X}(k, m)]. \quad (3.9)$$

While utilizing the formula like (3.4) for matrices $W[X(k, m)]$ (3.5), $W[k, m, X, \tau]$ (3.6) and mathematical expectation $\bar{\mathbf{X}}(k, m)$ (3.9), we can to constitute the following equation for assessment of the residual performance resource:

$$\bar{\tau}(k/X(k, m)) = \bar{\tau}(k) + W^T[k, m, X, \tau] W[X(k, m)]^{-1} [\mathbf{X}(k, m) - \bar{\mathbf{X}}(k, m)]. \quad (3.10)$$

3.3. Numerical results

We have investigated numerically what parameters of the regression procedure are sensitive regarding to the precision of the assessed residual performance resource. There were considered two of them, i.e. m – is the depth of memory, and s – is the interval between two points of trajectory (“step”) involved in regression model. The sense of the memory depth m has been explained already. The sense of the variable s is as follows. Let us use memory depth $m=2$. It means that to assess residual performance recourse we use three values of history of adverse exposures development, i.e.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

$X(k_1)$, $X(k_2)$ and $X(k_3)$. Difference between two sequential values of variable "number of sortie" we mean as *step* of regression procedure, i.e. $s = k_2 - k_1 = k_3 - k_2$.

It is clear that the more value of variable m the more computational complexity of regression procedure. Actually, increase of m entails remarkable increase of dimension of matrices in the equation (3.10). We investigated regression model precision for $m=0, 1, 2$ for different values of variable s . The results are given in the fig.3.1 –fig.3.8.

As a conclusion it was adjusted that the most appropriate value of m is equal to 2 and value of s is about (5–10). Decrease of s entails increase of noise but increase of it lead to decrease of precision. Of course, this conclusion is valid for concrete data model and sampling size for considered applied task.

The more important and traditionally discussed problem is what adverse factors have the most noticeable impact on the value of residual performance resource. Is it possible to diminish the size of the vector of adverse factors to minimum, for example, to 4-5 preserving the precision of the regression model within required limits? This task may be solved within the considered frameworks, but it takes to attract special approaches (not only statistical ones) and is a subject of special research.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

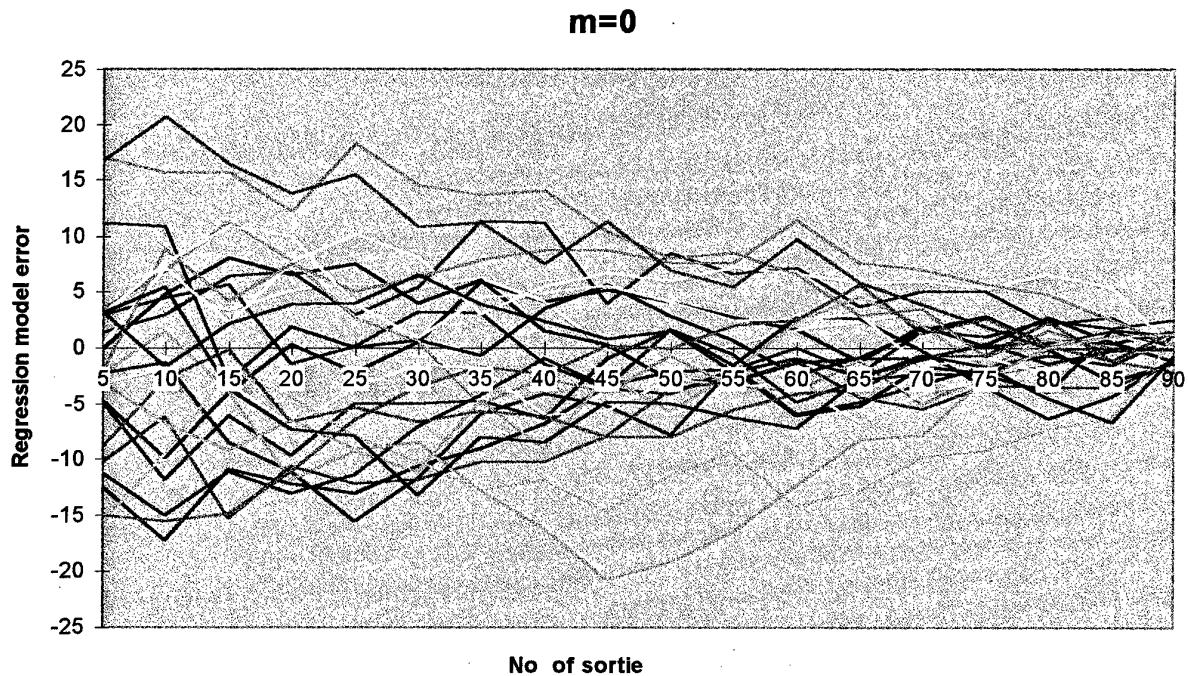


Fig.3.1. Realizations of error of residual performance resource assessment for $m=0$.

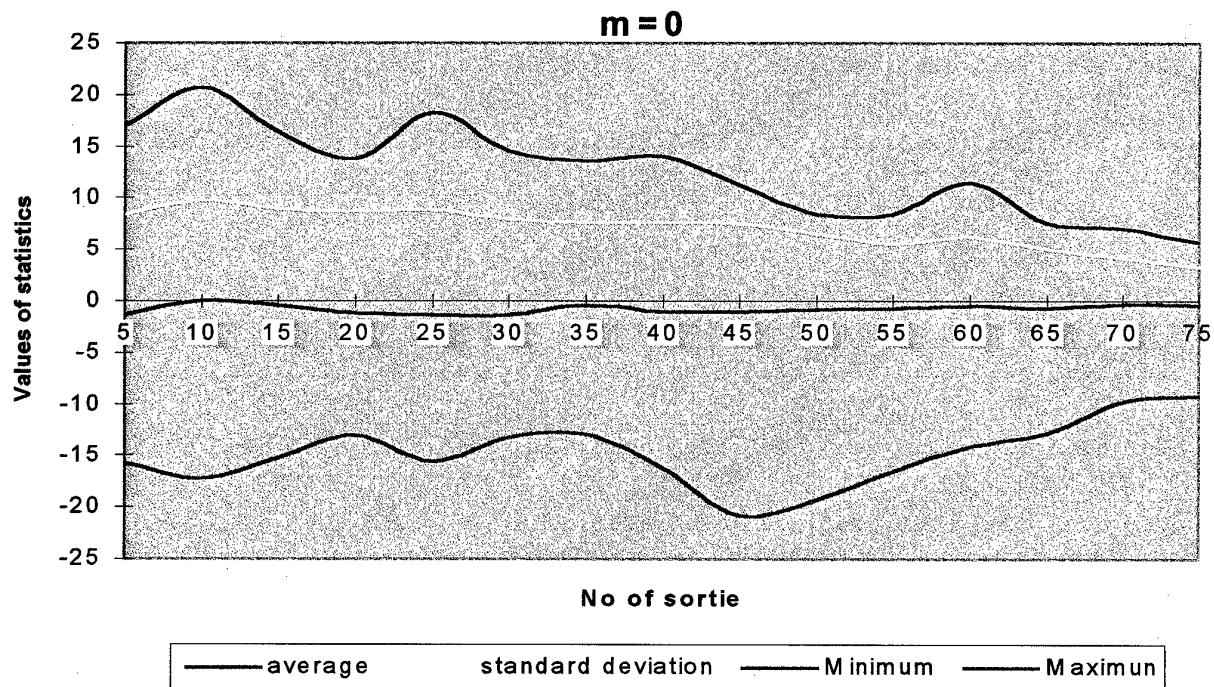


Fig.3.2. Properties of regression model (memory depth $m=0$).

Horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie in which the residual performance resource is assessed. "Average" is the mathematical expectation of the error of residual performance resource assessment. "Variance" is the standard deviation of the error. "Max" and "Min" values correspond to the maximal and minimal values of the error over the tested trajectories for 25 units.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

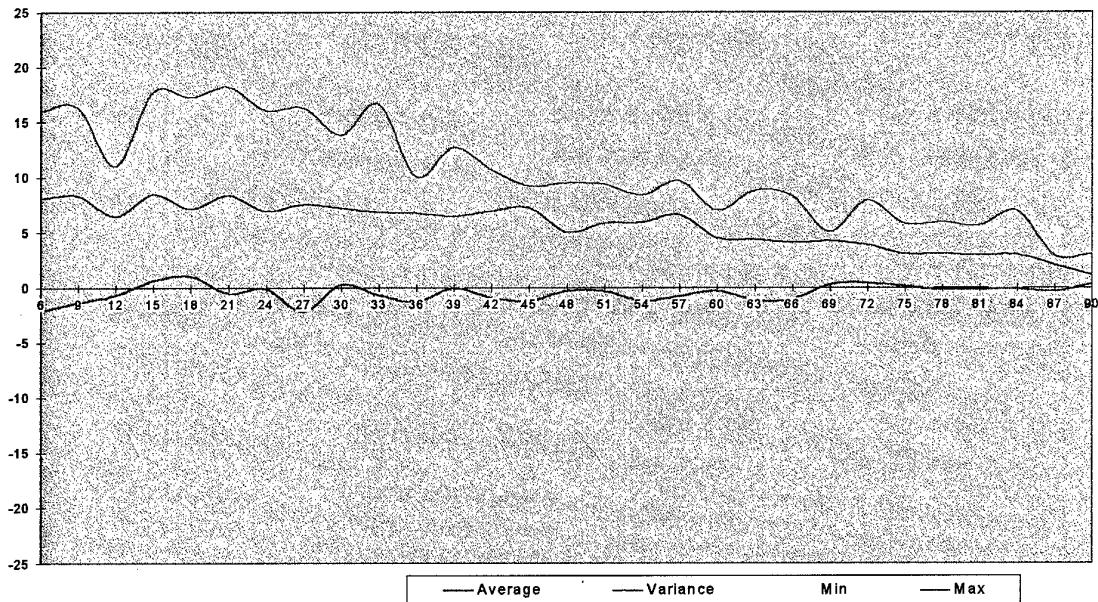


Fig.3.3. Properties of regression model (memory depth $m=1$ and $step =3$ sorties).

Horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie in which the residual performance resource is assessed. “Average” is the mathematical expectation of the error of residual performance resource assessment. “Variance” is the standard deviation of the error. “Max” and “Min” values correspond to the maximal and minimal values of the error over the tested trajectories for 25 units.

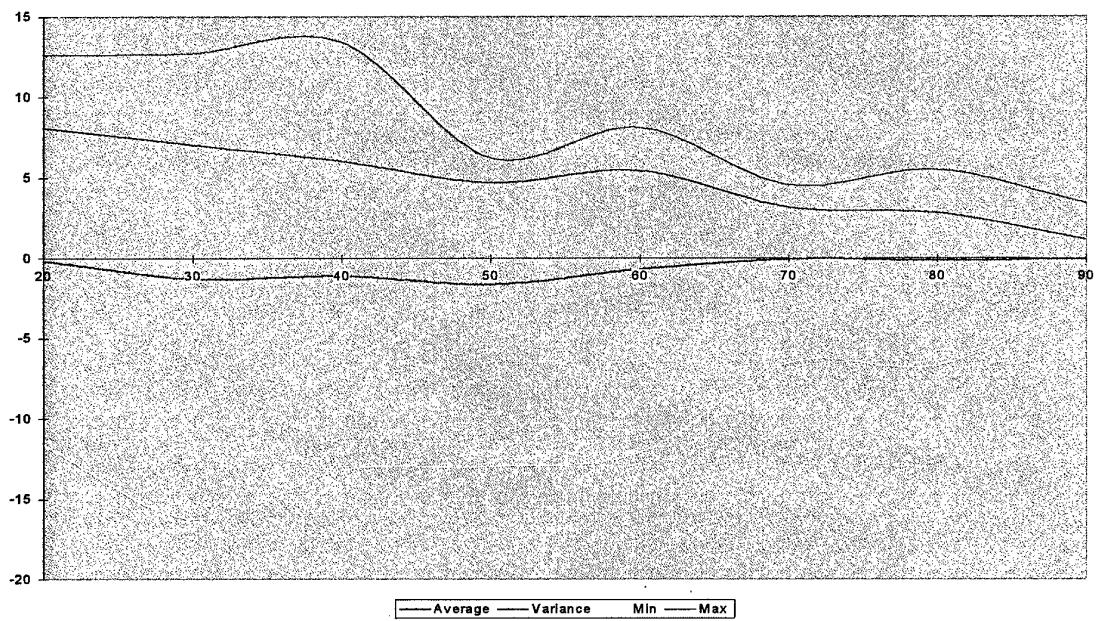


Fig.3.4. Properties of regression model (memory depth $m=1$ and $step =10$ sorties).

Horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie in which the residual performance resource is assessed. “Average” is the mathematical expectation of the error of residual performance resource assessment. “Variance” is the standard deviation of the error. “Max” and “Min” values correspond to the maximal and minimal values of the error over the tested trajectories for 25 units.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

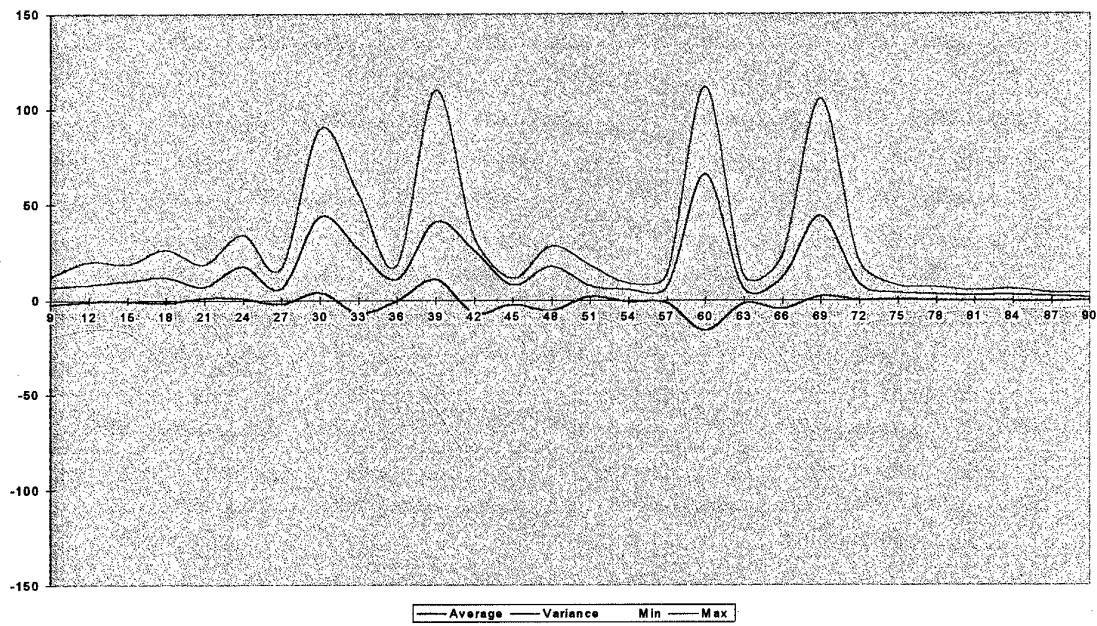


Fig.3.5. Properties of regression model (memory depth $m=2$ and $step =3$ sorties).

Horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie in which the residual performance resource is assessed. “Average” is the mathematical expectation of the error of residual performance resource assessment. “Variance” is the standard deviation of the error. “Max” and “Min” values correspond to the maximal and minimal values of the error over the tested trajectories for 25 units.

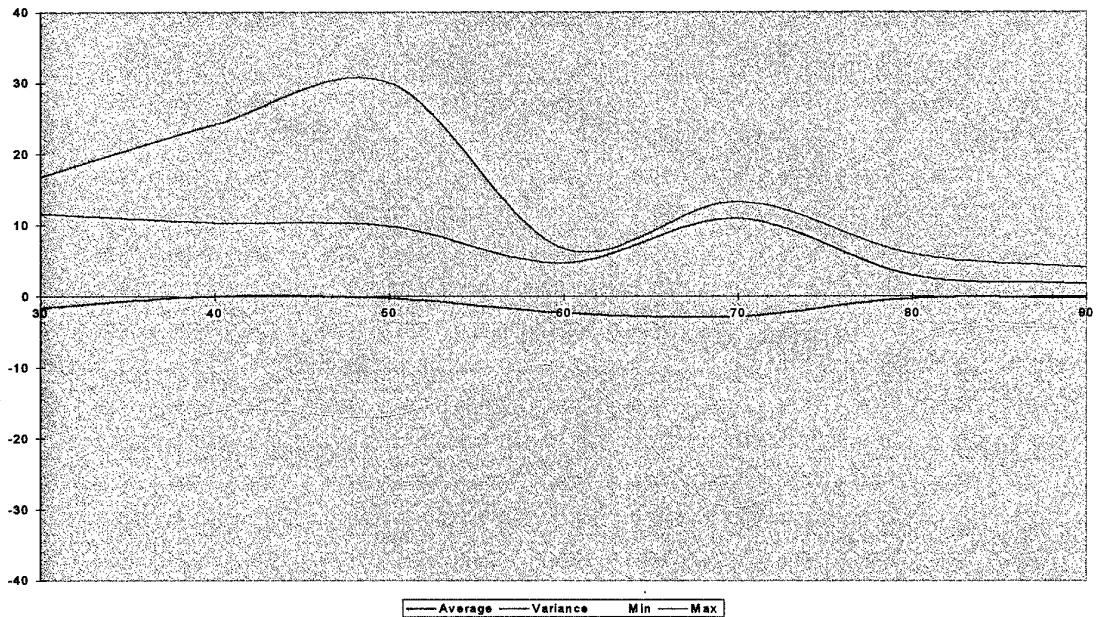


Fig.3.6. Properties of regression model (memory depth $m=2$ and $step =10$ sorties).

Horizontal axis corresponds to the number of sortie in which the residual performance resource is assessed. “Average” is the mathematical expectation of the error of residual performance resource assessment. “Variance” is the standard deviation of the error. “Max” and “Min” values correspond to the maximal and minimal values of the error over the tested trajectories for 25 units.

3. Regression Model for Residual Performance Resource Assessment

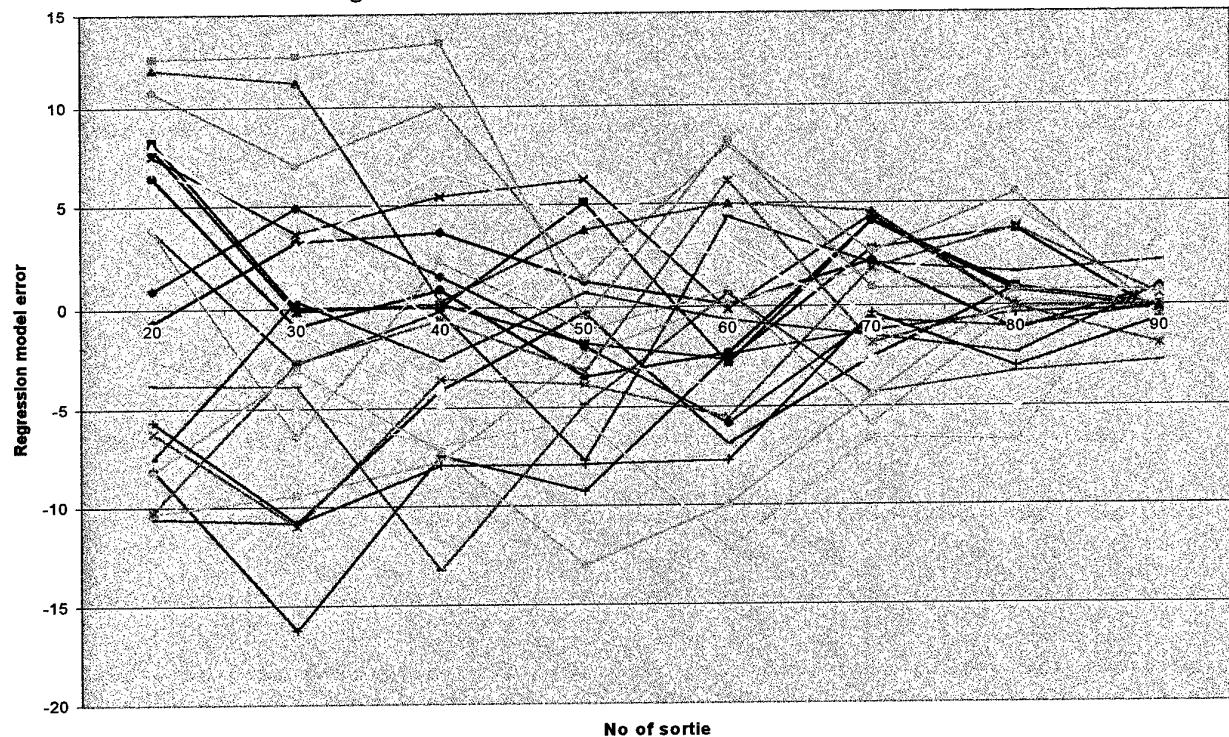


Fig.3.7. Realizations of error of residual performance resource assessment (regression model of memory depth $m=1$ and step =10 sorties).



Fig.3.8. Realizations of error of residual performance resource assessment (regression model of memory depth $m=2$ and step =10 sorties).

4. Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base for Health Assessment System Design

4.1. Outline of the Technology of Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base

This section is devoted to the outline of the developed approach that forms a Knowledge Engineering (Knowledge Discovery from Data (KDD)) technology for the prognostic model development. Main ideas of the technology were described in the Interim Report [IR-98]. In this section we in brief repeat the technology description, include some new results obtained in the second and third phases of research and demonstrate the technology numerically on the basis of database generated by DDM described in *Section 2*. It should be noted that this section is self-contained and doesn't require to be familiar to the contents of the Interim Report [IR-98].

In contrast to the data interpretation accepted in the [IR-98], below we consider data divided into three clusters, i.e.

- data records interpreted as "*normal performance*" ("*no failure*");
- data records interpreted as "*border-line performance*" (the cases themselves correspond to "*no failure*" but residual performance resource is less than given (chosen) threshold), and
- data records interpreted definitely as "*failure*".

Let us denote these clusters of data records (statuses of performance) as "*-1*", "*0*" and "*1*" respectively.

The KDD process aims at the development of a model and a model-based prognostic procedure that provide high quality of classification problem solving and precise prognosis of the probability of failure. The latter is utilized for estimating the probability of failure of a particular module at a given time in the future, say, during a forthcoming sortie, on the basis of the current "history of abuse" of this module.

Let us remind that from the Data Mining point of view, this problem constitutes the classification task. A peculiarity of the numerical task considered below compared to one considered in the Interim Report [IR-98] is as follows. In this Report we consider the task that deals with database divided into three clusters as far as in [IR-98] we have considered the binary-status task. This peculiarity necessitates utilization of a multi-step decision making procedure according to the meta-tree depicted below in the fig. 4.1. Let us note that developed software makes it possible to implement search according to this tree for general case when the number of clusters is equal to an arbitrary finite integer value. Each step of search according to the above meta-tree (within a node of meta-tree) corresponds to the technology developed in the Interim Report [IR-98]. Below we describe the upgraded version of this technology.

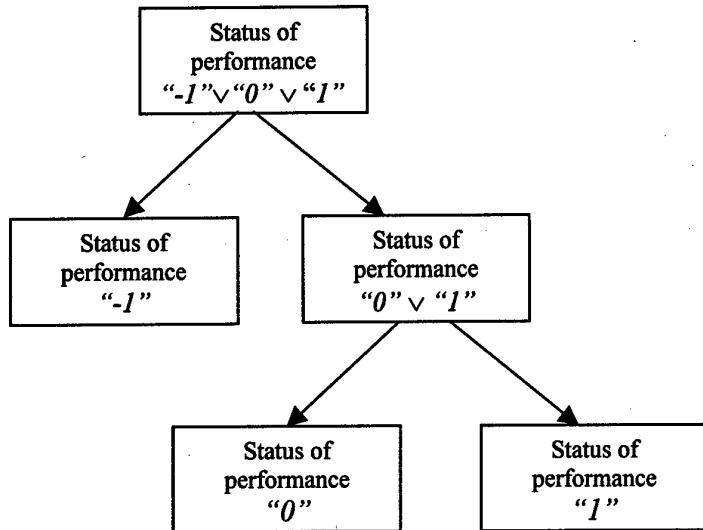
Let us stress the difference between two notions used in this report, i.e. "decision tree" and "meta-tree". The latter aims at dividing statistical database into two sub-databases via assigning each case the name of meta-class which it belongs to. It is high-level procedure. This procedure doesn't results in any classification predicates. It should be noticed that "meta-tree" design is exclusively the task of expert's responsibility. In contrast, "decision tree" aims at designing classification predicates which forms rules for separation a (meta-) cluster from another one according to "meta-tree". It should be noticed that if we deal with the binary classification task then the corresponding meta-tree consists of the single node.

The Data Mining technology within each node of meta-tree (see, for example, fig.4.1) in the main features corresponds to one developed in [IR-98]. Let us outline it in brief.

Decision tree design includes the development of a partially ordered set of nodes and a predicate dividing a set of cases into two subsets. Consider creating *i-th* node having as input argument a subset of training data S_i which contains cases of two clusters (for example, '*border-line*' and '*failure*'). In general case we deal with two meta-clusters. The goal of the procedure associated with the node is dividing the set of cases S_i into two clusters in the possibly best way assigning to the node a separation rule and corresponding predicate. This procedure design consists of a number of steps. We

consider it below for the node of meta-tree corresponding to the subset of cases "Status performance" $\in \{"0" \vee "1"\} = \{"\text{border-line}", "\text{failure}"\}$.

1. *Ranking of two-dimensional subspaces ("2-d subspaces")* of the entire factor space in accordance with the chosen criterion of informativity calculated over training data S_i . It is available for a developer to use a number of heuristic criterions of informativity. *Selection* of the most informative 2-d subspaces is very important task and is solved via user-computer interactions. User-friendly interface makes this task simple for user (see *Subsection 4.3* below).



2. *Visualization* of the projections of both clusters of training data S_i onto the selected 2-d subspace and providing a developer with the opportunity to adjust the separation rule manually using a computer graphical interface. This procedure is a *key point* of the technology. It makes possible to design separation rules of arbitrary shape manually. Note,

that the developed software makes it possible to draw manually a *non-linear* and even *non-convex* separation rules and automated generation of the associated predicates.

3. *Division of the experimental data* S_i into two non-overlapping subsets S_i^+ , S_i^- , $S_i = S_i^+ \cup S_i^-$. The subset S_i^+ contains the cases of S_i such that the predicate obtained at the previous step is "*true*" over all cases of the set S_i^+ , and the subset S_i^- contains the cases of S_i over which it is "*false*". Based on an additional criterion, each of two subsets S_i^+ and S_i^- is classified as a leaf R_j of the decision tree under development or as its new intermediate node. Decision tree development is ended if it does not contain intermediate nodes that were not processed in accordance with the procedures described above in the steps 1-3.
4. *Each leaf* R_j *of the decision tree is mapped to the predicate* P_j , *which is constituted as conjunction of predicates met along the way from root node up to the leaf* R_j . In addition, each leaf R_j is mapped to a subset of cases of experimental data for which predicate P_j is "*true*". Note that each leaf R_j may contain cases of experimental data belonging to both clusters (for example, "*border-line*" and "*failure*") or only to one of them.¹
- Let r decision trees are developed. Then the following task is performed to constitute the decision-making procedure.
5. For each decision tree number k , ($k=1, 2, \dots, r$), *definition of the probabilistic space* in which every leaf R_j^k of decision tree constitutes an elementary event. Each elementary event R_j^k is characterized by a confidence interval probabilities $p_k(X/\text{"border-line"})$ and $p_k(X/\text{"failure"})$ estimate defined empirically using training and testing data for any vector of factors $X \in R_j^k$.

¹ As a particular case, we may consider a decision tree that consists only of a root node.

4. Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base for Health Assessment System Design

The next two steps correspond to decision making procedure itself and are utilized for model-based estimating (forecasting) the probability of failure of a particular module at a given time on the basis of its current "history of abuse".

6. For given vector of factors X , *definition of the leaf R_j^k* to which vector of factors X belongs in each decision tree of number k , and hence, definition of the *values of probabilities $p_k(X/\text{border-line})$* and *$p_k(X/\text{"failure"})$* (see step 5) obtained by each decision tree. Joint processing of the above probabilities on the basis of so called "Algebraic Bayes' Network" (see [IR-98], [Gorodetski-92], [Gorodetski et al-97]) and calculation of the final values of probabilities $p(X/\text{"border-line"})$ and $p(X/\text{"failure"})$.
7. Definition of the *decision making* scheme based on Bayes' approach [Skormin et all-97]. This procedure aims at calculation of the probability of failure $p(\text{"failure"}|X)$ of the device affected by the given cumulative exposures of factors X .
8. *Testing* the developed prognostic model and model-based prognostic procedure by using an array of both training and examination data to assess properties of the model and the decision-making procedure.

Of course, the opportunity to utilize our procedure for assessing the probability of failure during the future cycle of the module operation depends upon the ability to forecast exposure of adverse factors at the time in question. The task of development of the appropriate means of forecasting was developed in [Popov-98].

Note once more that the first five steps result in the definition of a prognostic model. The next two steps constitute a model-based decision-making procedure. The last step is aimed at validation of the resulting model and model-based decision-making procedure.

The mathematical model discussed herein is applicable to solving such practical prognostic related problems as:

- ranking particular environmental conditions as factors responsible for general and particular types of failures,
- determination of particular groups of environmental conditions and assessment of their combined effects on failures in general and on particular types of failures,
- tracking the dynamics of development of cluster models and their statistical characteristics in the process of obtaining new experimental data,
- justification of the development of devices protecting avionics from adverse environmental conditions,
- development of the recommendations on the avoidance of the combined effects of adverse conditions.

This could be performed in real-time on the board of an aircraft or spacecraft.

Below we consider the above-described steps of the proposed technology in more details.

4.2. Heuristic Selection of Informative Subspaces. Informativity Criteria

It is well known that learning procedures aimed at extracting knowledge from data are computationally intensive. To decrease the amount of computations, researchers often use heuristic and intuitive notions such as "informativity", "similarity", etc. Formally specified, heuristic and intuitive notions are always problem- or domain-oriented. In our approach we use the intuitive notion of informativity to rank the subspaces of factors (features) and to select a more compressed specification of experimental data for further processing on this basis. We have investigated a number of formal specifications of informativity criteria. All of them can be interpreted as mean square normalized and, possibly, weighted distance between two clusters of statistical data. For large amounts of data the same criteria can be specified in terms of corresponding statistics assessed over data empirically.

Herein and below we use the following notations: $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ - is a vector of factors representing cumulative exposure to adverse conditions in hours; $Q \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ - is an integer variable symbolizing the output discrete event ("*normal operation of the device*" corresponds to $Q = -1$, $Q = 0$ corresponds to the "*border-line*" status of the device performance and "*the device failed*" corresponds to $Q = 1$; observed data are indexed by the symbols r, s ; the number of

cases associated with the node "*Status of performance*" = {"0" \vee "1"} is equal to N , $N = K_0 + K_1$, where K_0 , K_1 are the total number of realizations of cluster "0" and cluster "1" respectively. Therefore, experimental database consists of the subsets of K_0 realizations of cluster "0" marked by superscript "0", for example, $\{x_1^0(r), x_2^0(r), \dots, x_n^0(r)\}$, and K_1 realizations of cluster "1" marked by superscript "1", for example, $\{x_1^1(s), x_2^1(s), \dots, x_n^1(s)\}$. Additional notations will be introduced later.

The informativity criteria were selected as the most appropriate due to

- their adequacy to experts' intuitive interpretation of the subspace informativity,
- complexity of the subspace ranking task and
- on the basis of numerical experiments [IR-98].

Criteria (4.1) - (4.3) below correspond to a two-dimensional case but they also can be defined in a subspace of arbitrary dimension².

$$\bar{D}^2_{l,q} = (K_1 K_0)^{-1} \sum_{r=1}^{K_1} \sum_{s=1}^{K_0} \{[x_l^1(r) - x_l^0(s)]^2 / \sigma_l^2 + [x_q^1(r) - x_q^0(s)]^2 / \sigma_q^2\}, \quad (4.1)$$

$$M[D_{lq}^2] = w_{x_l}(0) / \sigma_l^2 + w_{x_q}(0) / \sigma_q^2 + w_{x_l}(1) / \sigma_l^2 + w_{x_q}(1) / \sigma_q^2 + \\ + (\Delta\bar{x}_l^{0,1})^2 / \sigma_l^2 + (\Delta\bar{x}_q^{0,1})^2 / \sigma_q^2 \quad (4.2)$$

where σ_l , σ_q - are standard deviations of variables x_l and x_q estimated over the entire range of experimental data, $(\Delta\bar{x}_l^{0,1})^2$, $(\Delta\bar{x}_q^{0,1})^2$ are squared distances between mathematical expectations of vectors of factors within clusters "0" and "1" respectively in the subspace comprising factors x_l , x_q .

$$Dw^2_{l,q} = (K_1 K_0)^{-1} \sum_{r=1}^{K_1} \sum_{s=1}^{K_0} a_s^0 a_r^1 \{[x_l^1(r) - x_l^0(s)]^2 / \sigma_l^2 + [x_q^1(r) - x_q^0(s)]^2 / \sigma_q^2\}, \quad (4.3)$$

where a_s^0 , a_r^1 - are weights assigned to cases (realizations) number r and number s of clusters "0" and "1" respectively. Weights a_s^0 and a_r^1 are calculated according to the algorithm given below:

$$\Delta\bar{x}_l = (\bar{x}_l^0 - \bar{x}_l^1) / \sigma_l, \quad \Delta\bar{x}_q = (\bar{x}_q^0 - \bar{x}_q^1) / \sigma_q, \quad b = \sqrt{(\Delta\bar{x}_l)^2 + (\Delta\bar{x}_q)^2}$$

$$\vec{e}_{lq} = \langle \Delta\bar{x}_l / b, \Delta\bar{x}_q / b \rangle = \langle \bar{e}_l, \bar{e}_q \rangle$$

For all cases of cluster «1» do ($r=1, 2, \dots, K_1$)

$$d_r^0 = |e_l(x_l^1(r) - \bar{x}_l^0) / \sigma_l + e_q(x_q^1(r) - \bar{x}_q^0) / \sigma_q|$$

$$d_r^1 = |e_l(x_l^1(r) - \bar{x}_l^1) / \sigma_l + e_q(x_q^1(r) - \bar{x}_q^1) / \sigma_q|$$

$$a_r^1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d_r^0 \geq d_r^1, \\ 0, & \text{if } d_r^0 < d_r^1. \end{cases}$$

For all cases of cluster «0» do ($s=1, 2, \dots, K_0$)

$$d_s^0 = |e_l(x_l^0(s) - \bar{x}_l^0) / \sigma_l + e_q(x_q^0(s) - \bar{x}_q^0) / \sigma_q|$$

$$d_s^1 = |e_l(x_l^0(s) - \bar{x}_l^1) / \sigma_l + e_q(x_q^0(s) - \bar{x}_q^1) / \sigma_q|$$

$$a_s^0 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } d_s^1 \geq d_s^0, \\ 0, & \text{if } d_s^1 < d_s^0 \end{cases}$$

Detailed explanation of the sense of weights a_s^0 and a_r^1 was given in [IR-98].

² It was told that due to the use of the notion of meta-tree we reduce the general case of classification task to the case of two clusters. That is why we consider below a binary classification and for numerical demonstration we use cases of clusters "0" and "1" since separation of these clusters is more difficult task.

Note, that criterion (4.2) is a statistical equivalent of criterion (4.1) and is intended to be used for large amounts of experimental data. Criteria (4.1)–(4.2) are additive and this property makes possible to design an efficient optimization procedure of subspace ranking according to their informativity for any arbitrary dimension. Corresponding algorithm was developed and described in [IR-98]. In the fig.4.2–fig.4.3 the samples of printouts of spaces ordering obtained on the basis of informativity criteria (4.1) and (4.3) respectively are given.

In [IR-98] the computational complexity of the algorithms of calculation of criteria (4.1)–(4.3) was adjusted as well.

4.3. Visual Design of Arbitrary Classification Predicates as a Step Towards a New Technology of Classification Model Design

According to the accepted methodology of prognostic model development based on numerical experimental data at the next step so-called classification predicates ([Skormin et al-97], [Skormin et al-99], [IR-98]) are developed. Actually, the meaning of classification predicates introduced below is twofold. First, they form a basis for the definition of prognostic rules. Second, one can consider classification predicates as a feature that represents experimental data on a binary scale instead of the original numeric scale. The latter view is very useful from general Data Mining point of view: since the original experimental data contains both continuous and discrete columns (factors), the utilization of classification predicates facilitates the transformation of all columns of the original experimental data to a discrete format. This transformation is typical in performing Data Mining and KDD tasks but approach considered below is new one and possess a number of very fruitful advantages outlined in the following sections.

Conceptually, a classification predicate is viewed as the predicate associated with a separation rule designed within a subspace of low dimension. Let us recall that in this study in order to facilitate visualization, we consider only 2-d subspaces.

Let us consider projection of two original clusters of experimental data on a 2-d subspace of factors, i.e. onto a plane as shown in fig. 4.4. Assume that a software tool allows a user to draw linear separation bounds that are perceived as good or optimal. Assume that if a user draws a linear separation bound the software tool automatically generates the linear equation $f_k(x_l, x_q)$ of the corresponding bound and defines the appropriate predicate as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \text{if } f_k(x_l, x_q) \geq 0 \text{ then } P_k \text{ is true} \\ \text{if } f_k(x_l, x_q) < 0 \text{ then } P_k \text{ is false.} \end{cases} \quad (4.4)$$

Geometrically, (4.4) implies that in a half-plane $\langle x_l, x_q \rangle$ predicate P_k is *true* and it is *false* in the alternative half-plane. It is expected that a user has the ability to draw a number of linear separation bounds and corresponding software tool automatically generates equations $f_1(x_l, x_q), \dots$

$\dots, f_m(x_l, x_q)$ and associated predicates P_1, P_2, \dots, P_m . Each predicate divides plane $\langle x_l, x_q \rangle$ in two half-planes. Generally, plane $\langle x_l, x_q \rangle$ will be divided into no more than 2^m convex regions $L_i, i=1,2,\dots,2^m$ that do not overlap and in combination cover the entire subspace $\langle x_l, x_q \rangle$. Within each region $L_i, i=1,2,\dots,2^m$ exactly one conjunction of the length m of predicates P_1, P_2, \dots, P_m taken with and without negation is *true*. Hence, each region $L_i, i=1,2,\dots,2^m$ is defined formally by a conjunction of predicates (4.4), an arbitrary combination of such regions is defined by disjunction of above-mentioned conjunctions. One should understand that if a software tool provides a user with the capability to define a number of visually-justified linear separation bounds and associated predicates, then the user is capable to design a very wide class of separation rules. This class contains linear and polygon-like bounds which may correspond to an arbitrary convex and non-convex regions. The latter may be obtained as a combination of convex regions of *truth* of some above mentioned conjunctions. To illustrate this concept let us consider the situation depicted in fig. 4.5.

4. Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base for Health Assessment System Design

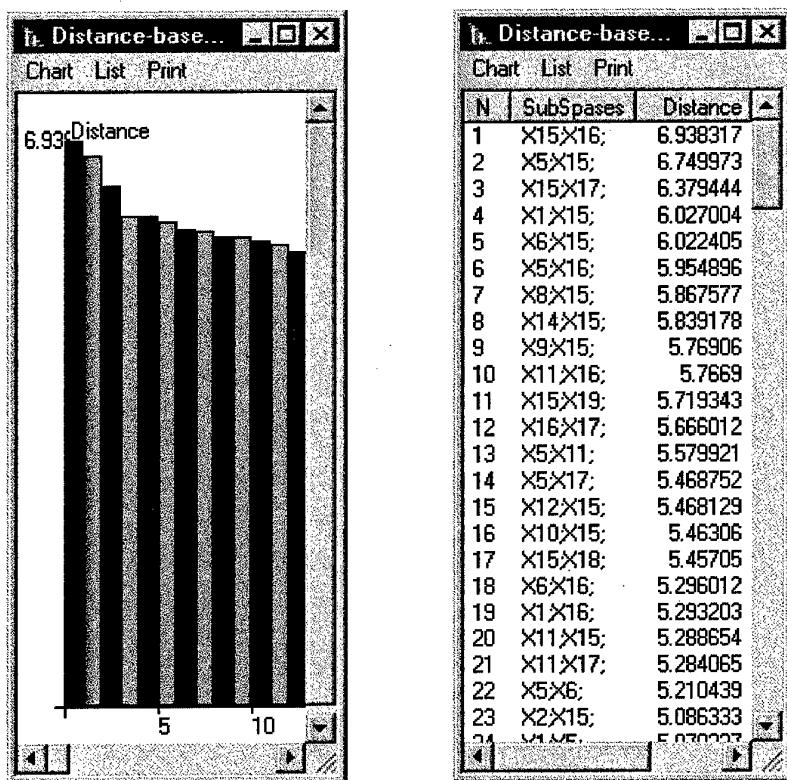


Fig. 4.2. Printouts of histogram and list of 2-dimensional subspaces ordered according to (4.1) measure of informativity.

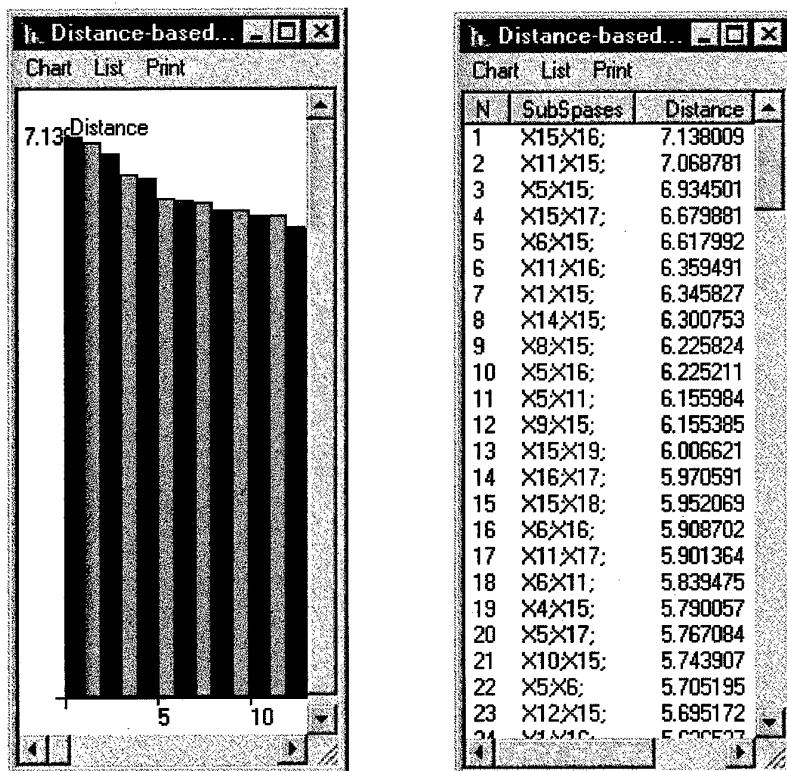


Fig. 4.3. Printouts of histogram and list of 2-dimensional subspaces ordered according to (4.3) measure of informativity.

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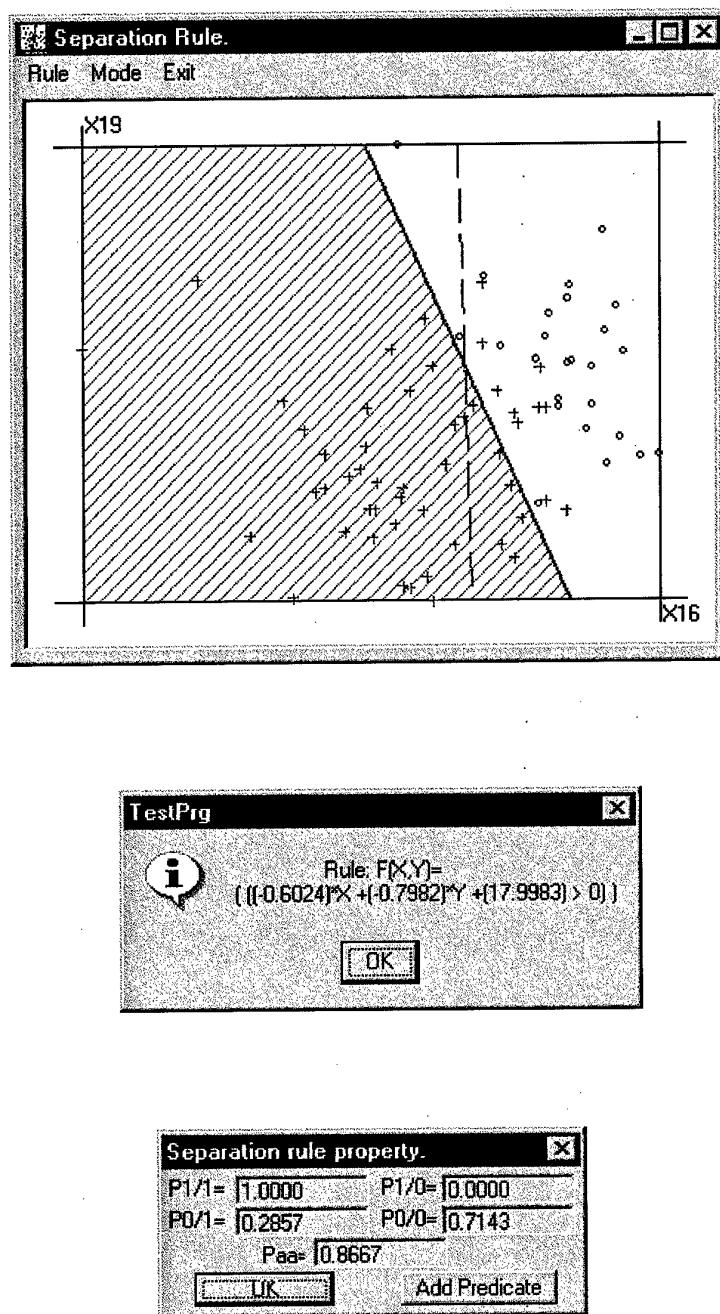


Fig. 4.4. Printouts of (1) visual interface for drawing linear separation boundary (top picture), (2) automatically generated classification predicate (middle picture) and (3) results of assessment of quality (probabilistic properties) of the generated classification predicate (bottom picture). Cases of different clusters are denoted by signs of different colors.

4. Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base for Health Assessment System Design

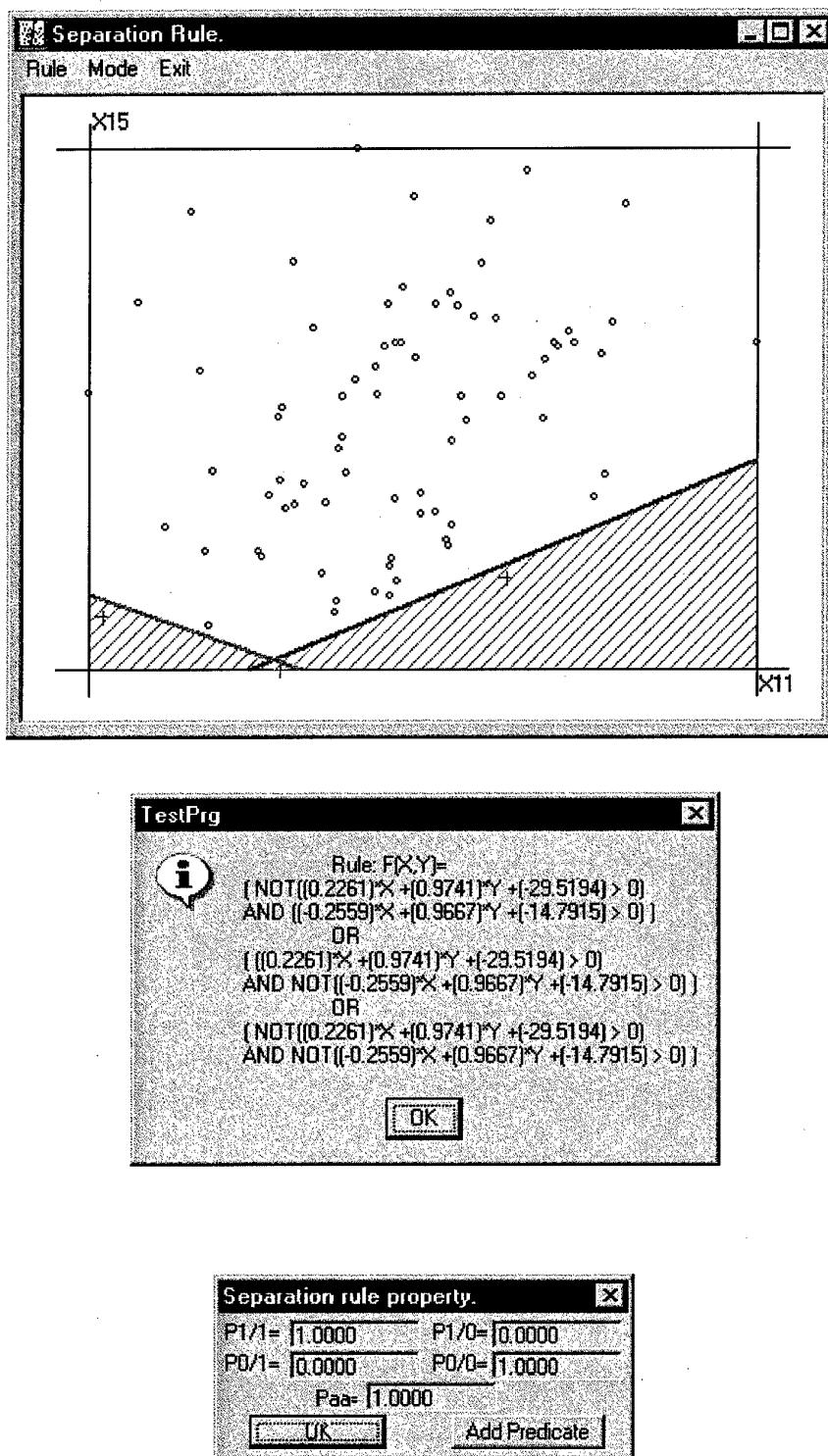


Fig. 4.5. Printouts of (1) visual interface for drawing polygon-like separation boundary (top picture), (2) automatically generated non-linear classification predicate (middle picture) and (3) results of assessment of quality (probabilistic properties) of the generated classification predicate (bottom picture). Cases of different clusters are denoted by signs of different colors.

Assume that a user defines three linear separation bounds by visualizing the computer-generated clustering pattern in the plane $\langle x_{11}, x_{15} \rangle$. The predicates P_1 and P_2 associated with these bounds are represented formally as follows:

$$P_1 = (0.226X_{11} + 0.947X_{15} - 29.52 \geq 0),$$

$$P_2 = (-0.256X_{11} + 0.967X_{15} - 14.79 \geq 0).$$

Both of them are assigned by value of "true" within the half-plane located above from the corresponding linear bounds. Hence, the white region corresponds to the *truth* domain of both predicates P_1 and P_2 . The green colored region is non-linear and non-convex and is specified by the following logic formula given over predicates P_1 and P_2 :

$$CP_1 = (\neg P_1 \& P_2) \vee (P_1 \& \neg P_2) \vee (\neg P_1 \& \neg P_2)$$

The separation bound and the corresponding predicate CP is designed usually to separate cases of two clusters as good as possible. The last requirement can be specified formally as follows:

$$N_{11} > M_{10}, M_{00} > N_{01}, \quad (4.5)$$

where N_{11} - is the number of realizations of cluster "1" for which predicate CP_1 is assigned the value "true"; N_{01} is the number of realizations of cluster "1" for which predicate CP_1 is assigned the value "false"; M_{10} is the number of realizations of cluster "0" for which predicate CP_1 is assigned the value "true", and M_{00} is the number of realizations of cluster "0" for which predicate CP_1 is assigned the value "false". It is clear that $(N_{11} + M_{00})$ realizations of experimental data are correctly classified by predicate CP , and $(M_{10} + N_{01})$ realizations of data are classified by predicate CP_1 erroneously. For example, these numbers for predicate CP_1 are (see fig.4.5):

$$N_{11} = 77, M_{10} = 0, N_{01} = 0, M_{00} = 3.$$

Definition 1. Predicate that meets condition (4.4) and inequalities (4.5) is a classification predicate.

Definition 1 is non-formal and introduces the term that is used elsewhere.

Based on experimental data every classification predicate CP_k , $k=1, 2, \dots, m$, can be assigned a number of attributes that represent the quality of classification that it is expected to achieve. Let us consider empirical estimates of probabilities of the correct and erroneous classifications of realizations of experimental data represented as a matrix:

$$p(CP_k) = \begin{bmatrix} p_k(1/1) & p_k(1/0) \\ p_k(0/1) & p_k(0/0) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (4.6)$$

Note that the first argument within the brackets corresponds to the decision made by classification predicate, and the second argument corresponds to the actual status of the realization in question. These estimates can be calculated as follows:

$$p_k(1/1) = N_{11}(k) / [N_{11}(k) + M_{10}(k)], \quad p_k(1/0) = M_{10}(k) / [N_{11}(k) + M_{10}(k)],$$

$$p_k(0/1) = N_{01}(k) / [M_{00}(k) + N_{01}(k)], \quad p_k(0/0) = M_{00}(k) / [N_{01}(k) + M_{00}(k)].$$

For example, for classification predicate CP_1 (see fig.4.2) the above estimates are as follows:

$$p_k(1/1) = 1; \quad p_k(1/0) = 0$$

$$p_k(0/1) = 0; \quad p_k(0/0) = 1.$$

In fig. 4.6, fig.4.8, fig.4.9 and fig.4.10 one can see a number of samples of graphical synthesis of separation rules and corresponding classification predicates embedded in decision trees design (see *Subsections 4.4 and 4.5*). They were designed for the case study of the developed technology

considered below. Compared to the Interim Report [IR-98] a peculiarity of case study is that it is based on statistical database generated by DDM developed in *Section 2*.

Let us note that one more approach to the classification predicates synthesis was developed by V.Skormin [Skormin et al-99]. In contrast to the above polygon-like separation rule design that is natively interactive he developed an "automatic procedure resulting in ellipse-based separation rules. This approach is efficient enough but comparing to the former approach it has to be implemented in the "same style", i.e. as a procedure supported by interactive visualizing software. This comparison is a goal of the future work in the framework of Data Mining oriented research.

4.4. Forest of Decision Trees as a Step Towards Improving Quality of Classification

The general idea of decision tree was outlined in *Section 4.1*. The decision tree development procedure aims at finding the non-correlated informative subspaces over the training subset of experimental data. Let us explain the term "correlation" within the context of the Report.

Let CP_1 and CP_2 be the classification predicates associated with a selected pair of the most informative subspaces. Let each of them divide the entire set of cases S into two subsets, i.e. into subspaces $\{S'_1, S'_2\}$ and into subspaces $\{S''_1, S''_2\}$ respectively. It may turn out that $S'_1 \approx S''_1$ and $S'_2 \approx S''_2$. If such non-formal equalities are held then the second informative subspace is not able to improve remarkably the classification procedure. Hence, the second subspace is informative in itself but is not informative if it is added to the first one. This example explains approximately in which sense we use the term "subspaces correlation". The latter may be specified formally but it is not necessary because it is clear how to take into account correlation of subspaces in the interactive visualized selection procedure to avoid utilization of highly "correlated" subspaces in the classification procedure. Let us explain how it can be performed.

In the Fig.4.6, a sample of a decision tree is depicted. In the first step the developer has selected the 2-d subspace $\langle x_5, x_{12} \rangle$ as the most informative. The upper screen (Fig.4.6) depicts projections of both clusters "0" and "1" onto the plane $\langle x_5, x_{12} \rangle$ and a linear separation rule (continuous line) established by an expert manually as the optimal one (The broken line corresponds to the separation rule calculated automatically but rejected by the developer.). This separation rule divides the entire set of training experimental data into two non-overlapping subsets S_1, S_2 .

The next steps of subspace selection are applied separately to subsets S_1 and S_2 , which form two new nodes of decision tree. Therefore, on the second and third steps we have to solve two tasks of informative subspaces selection for the two above mentioned subsets S_1 and S_2 of experimental data. In the Fig.4.6 the results of the second step selections are visualized and represented as printouts. The next and all further steps can be realized in the same way. As a result, a decision tree depicted in the Fig.4.6 is obtained. This decision tree is provided by all related information, i.e. set of 2-d subspaces, equations of separation rules, classification predicates, related probabilities, etc., obtained by the developed software automatically (This information is omitted in the fig.4.6). One can see that some separation bounds are chosen in a nonlinear form.

4.5. Probabilistic decision making procedure

The result of the above procedure is the decision tree such that each its leaf is mapped to a subset of cases of original training data. These subsets are not overlapping and their union covers the entire set of training data. On the other hand, each leaf is mapped to its own classification predicate constituted as conjunction of classification predicates of decision tree nodes met along the way from tree root up to respective leaf. Each predicate is true in the concrete region of the factor space, and the regions corresponding to the different leaves are not overlapping and cover the entire factor space. Hence, they can be used as the elementary events to design a probabilistic space. Let us consider in more formal way how the probabilistic space is constituted and how it is utilized to assess the probability of failure of a device having given "history of abuse".

4. Knowledge Discovery from Statistical Data Base for Health Assessment System Design

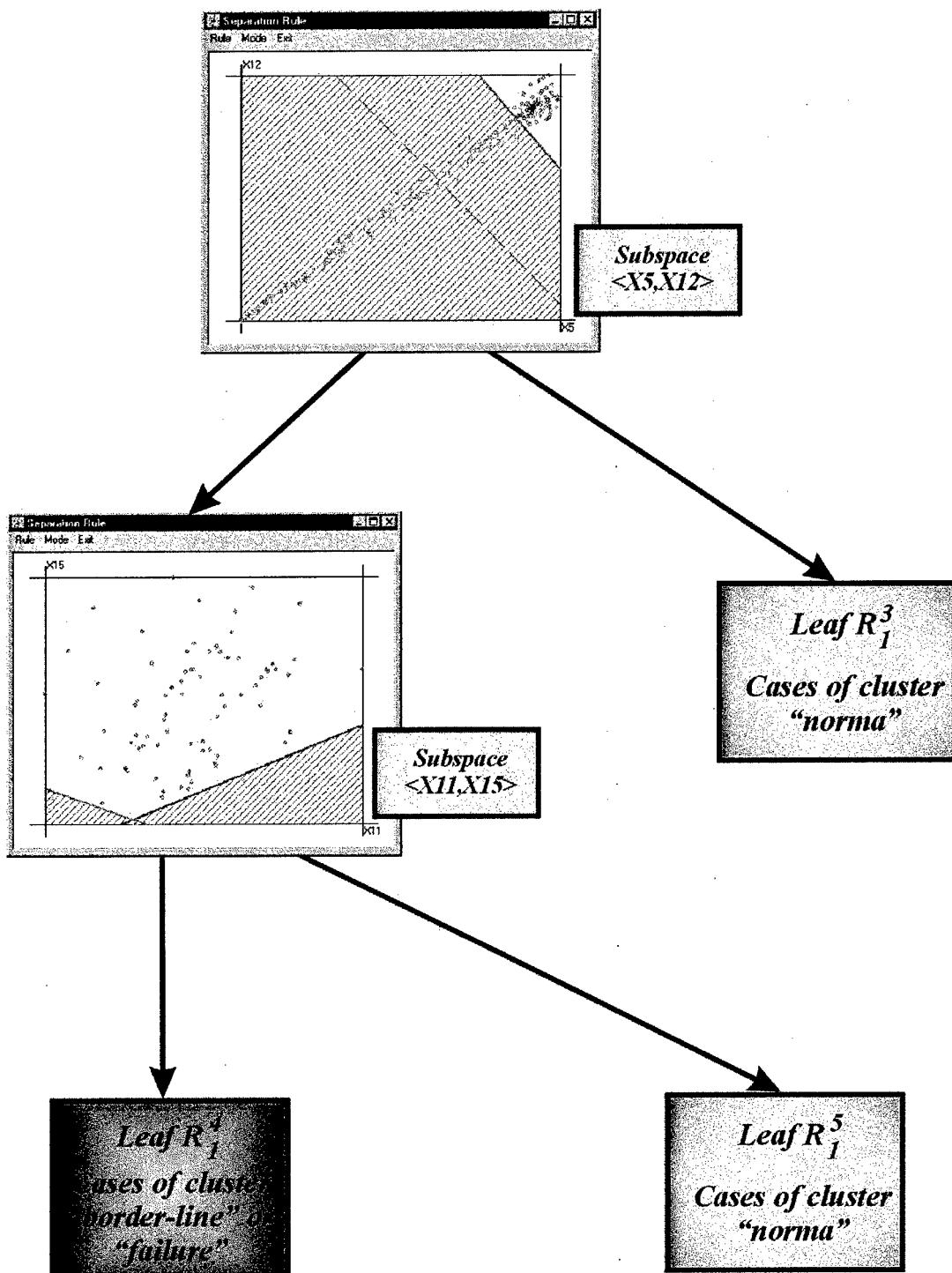


Fig. 4.6. Decision tree for the node of meta-tree $\langle Status \text{ of performance } "I" \vee "0" \vee "I" \rangle$ (see fig. 4.1)

Let $\{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_S\}$ is the set of elementary events which are mapped to the set of leaves of a designed decision tree and $\{P_1, P_2, \dots, P_S\}$ is the set of the respective (mapped to corresponding leaves of decision tree) classification predicates. Each such elementary event $R_i \in \{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_S\}$ can be mapped to an empirically estimated probability $p_R(X) = p_i(X)$ on the basis of testing of designed decision tree over both training and testing data in a traditional way. We suppose that these estimations are calculated as confidence intervals for given level of confidence probability. In the same way, confidence intervals of probabilities $p_i(X/0)$ and $p_i(X/1)$ can be estimated. Note that $p_i(X) = p_i(X/0) + p_i(X/1)$. As a result for each predicate P_1, P_2, \dots, P_S the following probabilities will be estimated by confidence intervals:

$$p_h(1/1) = p[P_h(X) = "true" / X \in I], \quad p_h(1/0) = p[P_h(X) = "true" / X \in 0], \quad (4.7)$$

$$p_h(0/1) = p[P_h(X) = "false" / X \in I], \quad p_h(0/0) = p[P_h(X) = "false" / X \in 0].$$

The availability of the probabilities (4.7) makes it possible to calculate the target probability of failure for any point of the factor space X^* subject to the condition that $P_h(X^*) = "true"$ using Bayes' formula as follows:

$$p[1 / P_h(X^*)] = \frac{p(1)p_h(1/1)}{p(1)p_h(1/1) + p(0)p_h(1/0)}. \quad (4.8)$$

Here $p(1), p(0)$ - are prior probabilities of "border-line" and "failure" of the device operation. It is obvious that probability of normal operation under the adverse exposures X^* is

$$p_h(0 / P_h(X^*)) = 1 - p[1 / P_h(X^*)]$$

In the general case when the available size of training and testing data is too small we are not able to obtain the satisfactory accuracy of estimations of task related probabilities to forecast a probability of failure. However, the quality of designed prognostic model depends critically on the above accuracy. Therefore, we have to undertake special efforts to provide the needed accuracy. In the next section we investigate an approach to cope with the above problem.

4.6 Improvement of Assessment of the Task-related Probabilities

Recall that the main goal of the prognostic model under development is the reevaluation of the probability of failure of an avionics module on the basis of its actual "history of abuse" represented by the vector of adverse exposures. It is elsewhere adopted that the accuracy of the assessment of this probability depends on two factors:

- (1) the total amount of experimental data that is used for training (prognostic model design) and testing (evaluation of the model quality),
- (2) quality of prognostic model and model-based decision-making procedure.

We assume that in our case the amount of experimental data is small³ and we have no information about the distribution of realizations within data clusters. Therefore, in a general case even the best prognostic model may such that it is not able to provide precise probability assessment. However, we are able to assign a confidence interval for the probability of each elementary event associated with each leaf of the designed decision tree that constitute a guaranteed estimation.

To narrow these confidence intervals and, hence, to improve the accuracy of probability assessment, we proposed the following two approaches:

- Use of a set of prognostic models (a set of decision trees) that differ in factor subspaces utilized by each decision tree of the respective prognostic model. This approach leads to a collective of decision-making procedures. This way is based on the redundancy of information involved in a decision making and results in the improvement of the probability accuracy estimation. To realize such approach it is necessary to develop a special algorithm for joint processing of probabilities resulting

³ Otherwise the problem of improving of the probabilities assessment doesn't exists.

from each decision tree. We proposed to use the algorithm based on the Algebraic Bayes' Network (ABN) approach developed in [Gorodetski-92], [Gorodetski et al-97].

- It is proposed to replace the traditional Bayes' formula (13) resulting in a posterior probability by its equivalent developed on the basis of methods of interval mathematics which facilitates the calculation of a guaranteed estimate of the probability of failure.

Consider the brief discussion of the algorithms implementing the above approaches. In [IR-98] these algorithms were illustrated by a numerical example of the assessment of failure probability of an avionics module. It is understood that the quantities generated by a decision-making procedure represented by a decision tree depend on the choice of the root and intermediate nodes. Typically, we are able to design a number of decision trees utilizing different subspaces of the factor space that results in information redundancy. Consider the impact of this redundancy on the accuracy of the prognostic procedure.

Assume that a set of three decision trees has been established within a particular prognostic model. Consider the application of this model for the assessment of the probability of failure of an avionics module subjected to adverse exposures X . Assume that vector X results in elementary events R_i^1 , R_j^2 and R_k^3 or, using some specific jargon, belongs to the appropriate leaves of the first, second and third decision trees. The respective probabilities are defined as

$$R_i^1: a_i^1 \leq p(X) \leq b_i^1, a_i^1(0) \leq p(X/0) \leq b_i^1(0), a_i^1(1) \leq p(X/1) \leq b_i^1(1); \quad (4.9)$$

$$R_j^2: a_j^2 \leq p(X) \leq b_j^2, a_j^2(0) \leq p(X/0) \leq b_j^2(0), a_j^2(1) \leq p(X/1) \leq b_j^2(1); \quad (4.10)$$

$$R_k^3: a_k^3 \leq p(X) \leq b_k^3, a_k^3(0) \leq p(X/0) \leq b_k^3(0), a_k^3(1) \leq p(X/1) \leq b_k^3(1). \quad (4.11)$$

It could be seen that vector X belongs to all tree subspaces, therefore the probability of the event $R_i^1 \wedge R_j^2 \wedge R_k^3$, i.e. the probability of the event $p(R_i^1 \wedge R_j^2 \wedge R_k^3)$ could be defined on the basis of Algebraic Bayes' Network (ABN) approach developed in [Gorodetski et al-97] (see also Section 5). This approach reflects the basics of the probability theory and requires that the interval constraints (4.9) - (4.11) be supplemented by some fundamental axioms.

In the case under consideration, we specify the interrelationships between probabilities that are defined by each decision tree (they are given in (4.9) - (4.11)) and the probability $p(R_i^1 \wedge R_j^2 \wedge R_k^3)$. Following the ABN approach we represent the interrelationships between probabilities by a Hasse diagram [Birkhoff-67] as shown in fig.4.7. Denote the probabilities of events constituted by intersections of events R_i^1 , R_j^2 and R_k^3 as follows:

$$p(X \in R_i^1) = p(X_1), p(X \in R_j^2) = p(X_2), p(X \in R_k^3) = p(X_3),$$

$$p[(X \in R_i^1) \wedge (X \in R_j^2)] = p(X_1 X_2), p[(X \in R_i^1) \wedge (X \in R_k^3)] = p(X_1 X_3),$$

$$p[(X \in R_j^2) \wedge (X \in R_k^3)] = p(X_2 X_3), p[(X \in R_i^1) \wedge (X \in R_j^2) \wedge (X \in R_k^3)] = p(X_1 X_2 X_3).$$

The following are the interrelationships between probabilities reflecting the axioms of norm and additivity:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(X_1) + p(X_2) - p(X_1 X_2) &\leq 1 & p(X_1) + p(X_2) + p(X_3) - p(X_1 X_2) - p(X_1 X_3) - \\
 p(X_1) + p(X_3) - p(X_1 X_3) &\leq 1 & -p(X_2 X_3) + p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \leq 1. \\
 p(X_2) + p(X_3) - p(X_2 X_3) &\leq 1, & p(X_2 X_3) - p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0, \\
 p(X_2) - p(X_1 X_2) &\geq 0 & p(X_1 X_3) - p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0, \\
 p(X_1) - p(X_1 X_2) &\geq 0 & p(X_1 X_2) - p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0, \\
 p(X_3) - p(X_1 X_3) &\geq 0 & p(X_3) - p(X_1 X_3) - p(X_2 X_3) + p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0, \\
 p(X_1) - p(X_1 X_3) &\geq 0 & p(X_2) - p(X_1 X_2) - p(X_2 X_3) + p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0, \\
 p(X_3) - p(X_2 X_3) &\geq 0 & p(X_1) - p(X_1 X_2) - p(X_1 X_3) + p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0,
 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \right\} (4.12)$$

and, as usual, $p(X_i) \geq 0$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, $p(X_i X_j) \geq 0$, $i, j = 1, 2, 3$, $p(X_1 X_2 X_3) \geq 0$.

These interrelationships are viewed as the *background knowledge*, that could be incorporated in the estimation of probability $p(X) = p(X_1 X_2 X_3)$ in the form of two linear programming problems as follows:

$$1. \min\{p(X_1 X_2 X_3)\} \text{ under constraints (4.9), (4.10), (4.11) and (4.12) (lower bound);} \quad (4.13)$$

$$2. \max\{p(X_1 X_2 X_3)\} \text{ under constraints (4.9), (4.10), (4.11) and (4.12); (upper bound).} \quad (4.14)$$

Note that based on experimental data it is possible to assess intervals for probabilities $p(X_1 X_2)$, $p(X_1 X_3)$ and $p(X_2 X_3)$ as well. This can be useful for further narrowing intervals of probabilities in question. This approach to improving the accuracy of interval probabilities is very fruitful. It was demonstrated numerically by example in [IR-98].

Now consider the use of Bayes' formula (4.8) for calculation of the posterior probability $p(I/X)$ in the case when probabilities $p(X/I)$ and $p(X/0)$ are given by their confidence intervals. Our goal is

to calculate the upper bound of probability $p(I/X)$. Therefore, the task is to find its maximum value subject to constraints

$$a_1 \leq P(X/I) \leq b_1, a_0 \leq P(X/0) \leq b_0. \quad (4.15)$$

Simple analysis of this optimization task shows that it is equivalent to the task of maximization of the quotient $p(X/I)/p(X/0)$. This provides the justification for the following formula:

$$\max\{p(I/X)\} = \frac{p(I)b_1}{p(I)b_1 + p(0)a_0} \quad (4.16)$$

The detailed numerical demonstration of the developed technology for design information-based health assessment system was given in [IR-98]. Additional numerical results obtained for statistical database generated

by the developed DDM is given in the next subsection. Statistical database itself contained learning and testing Data is given in *Appendix A2*.

4.7. Numerical results

In [IR-98] we demonstrated the developed technology of probability of failure assessment and prognosis in detail. In this report we omitted this. Instead, let us consider additional numerical results regarding the statistical assessment of the quality of decision making procedure over the testing database. The latter was generated on the basis of DDM model developed in this research and described in *Section 1*. This database consists of 200 cases including 125 cases of the cluster "no failure", 50 cases of the cluster "border-line" and 25 cases of the cluster "failure" (see *Appendix A2*). Note that these cases were not involved in the learning procedures resulting in decision trees depicted in the fig.4.6, fig.4.8, fig.4.9 and fig.4.10.

Numerical results of testing are presented in tab.4.1 below. One can see that each decision tree provides the sufficient level of classification quality. Note that these results were obtained on the basis of small training database. In fact, if we were continuing learning procedure involving in this process new training data we should be able to reach much more high level of perfect classification.

Let us comment data in two last columns of the table. The column #7 contains probabilities of classification (the latter are presented in the column #2) for the case of using decision procedure on the basis of decision trees voting according to the rule "two of three". In the column #8 we presented probabilities of classification for the case if voting is organized corresponding to the rule "if at least one decision tree votes for "failure" then decision is "failure". Note that in this Report we don't demonstrate numerically use of ABN because the latter was presented in Interim report [IR-98].

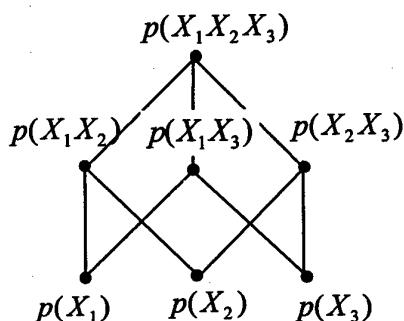


Fig.4.7. Algebraic Bayes' Network for three-propositional case

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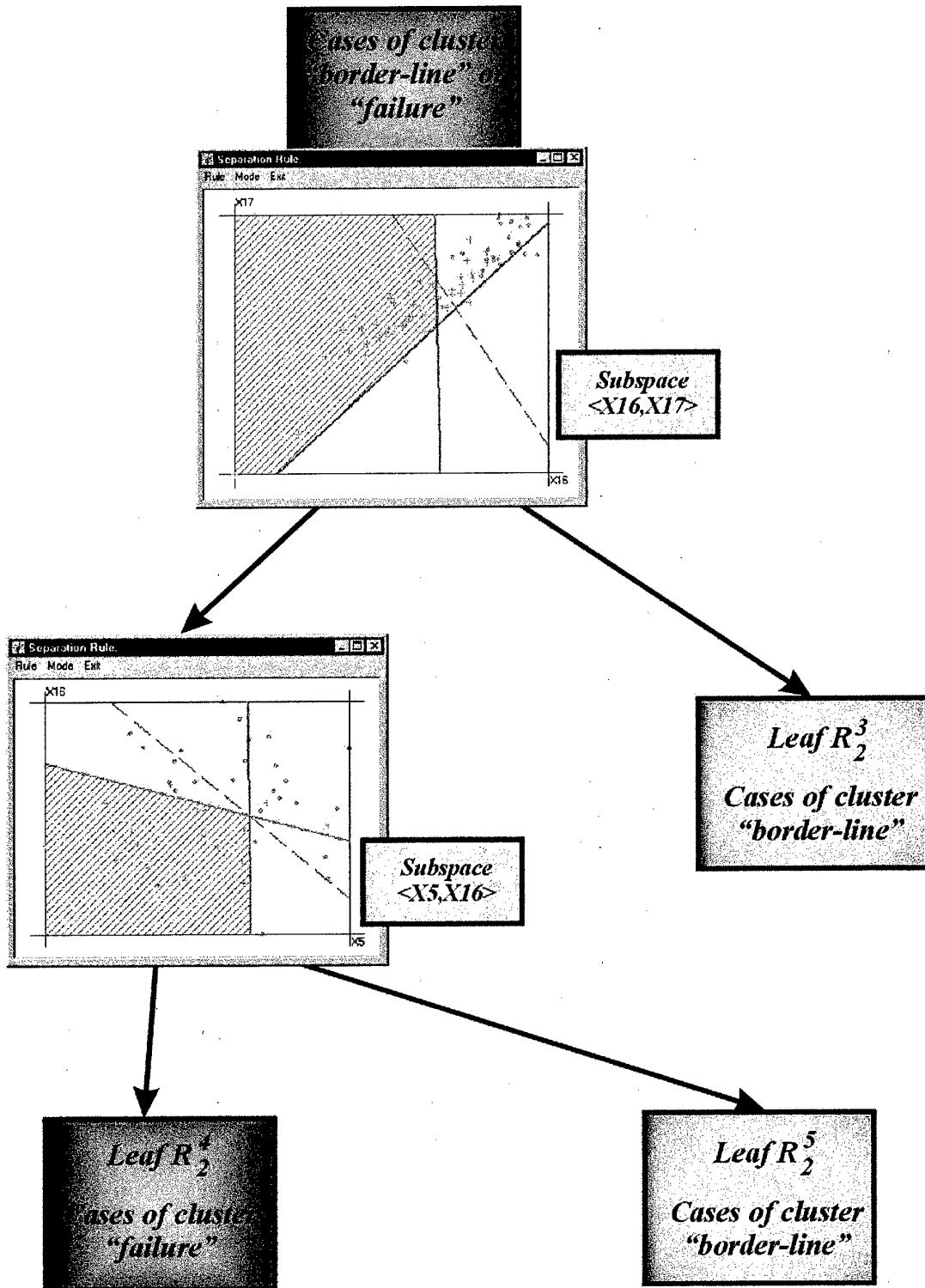


Fig. 4.8. Decision tree #1 for the node of meta-tree *<Status of performance "0" ∨ "1">* (see fig. 4.1)

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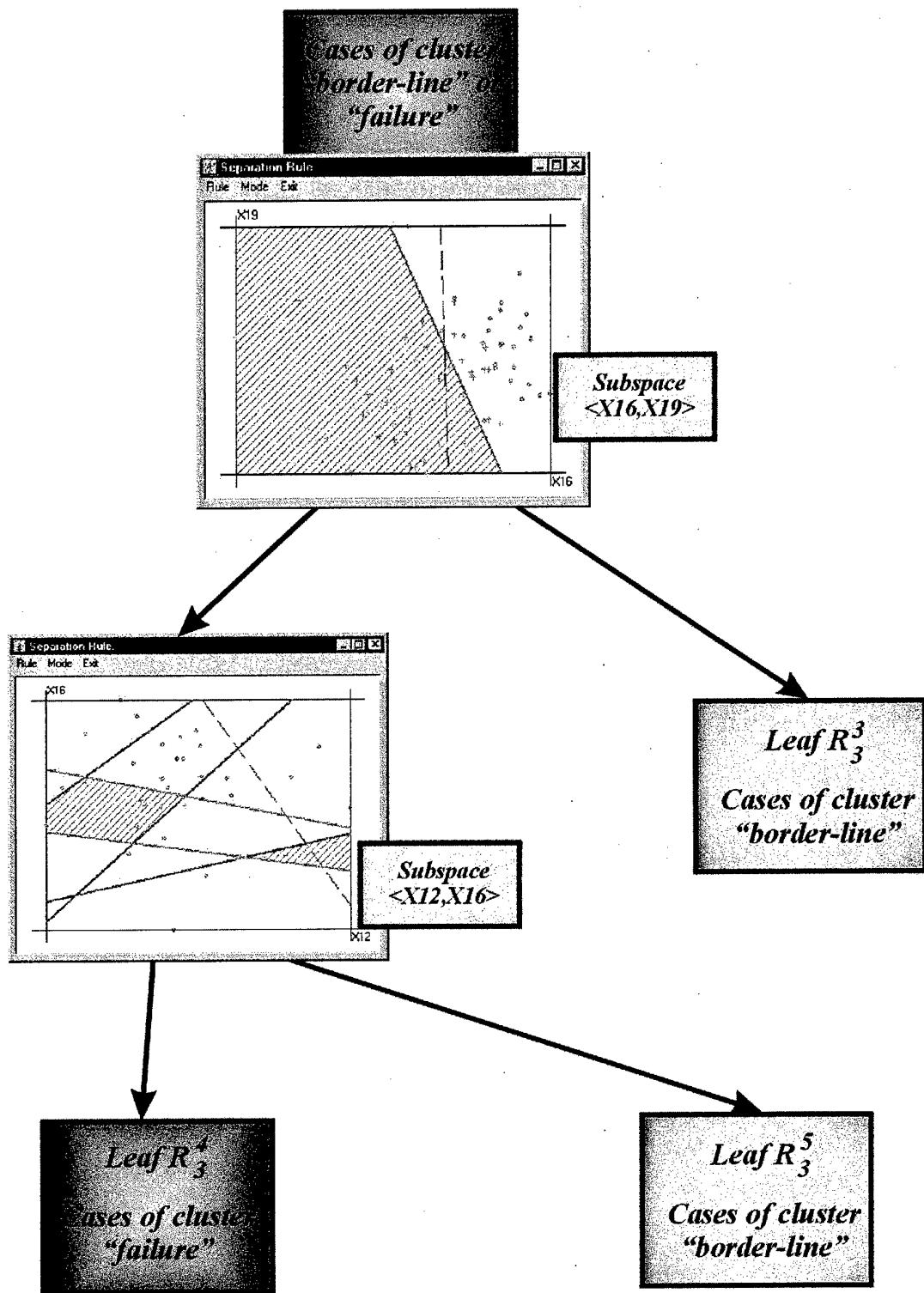


Fig. 4.9. Decision tree #2 for the node of meta-tree <Status of performance "0" v "1">
(see fig. 4.1)

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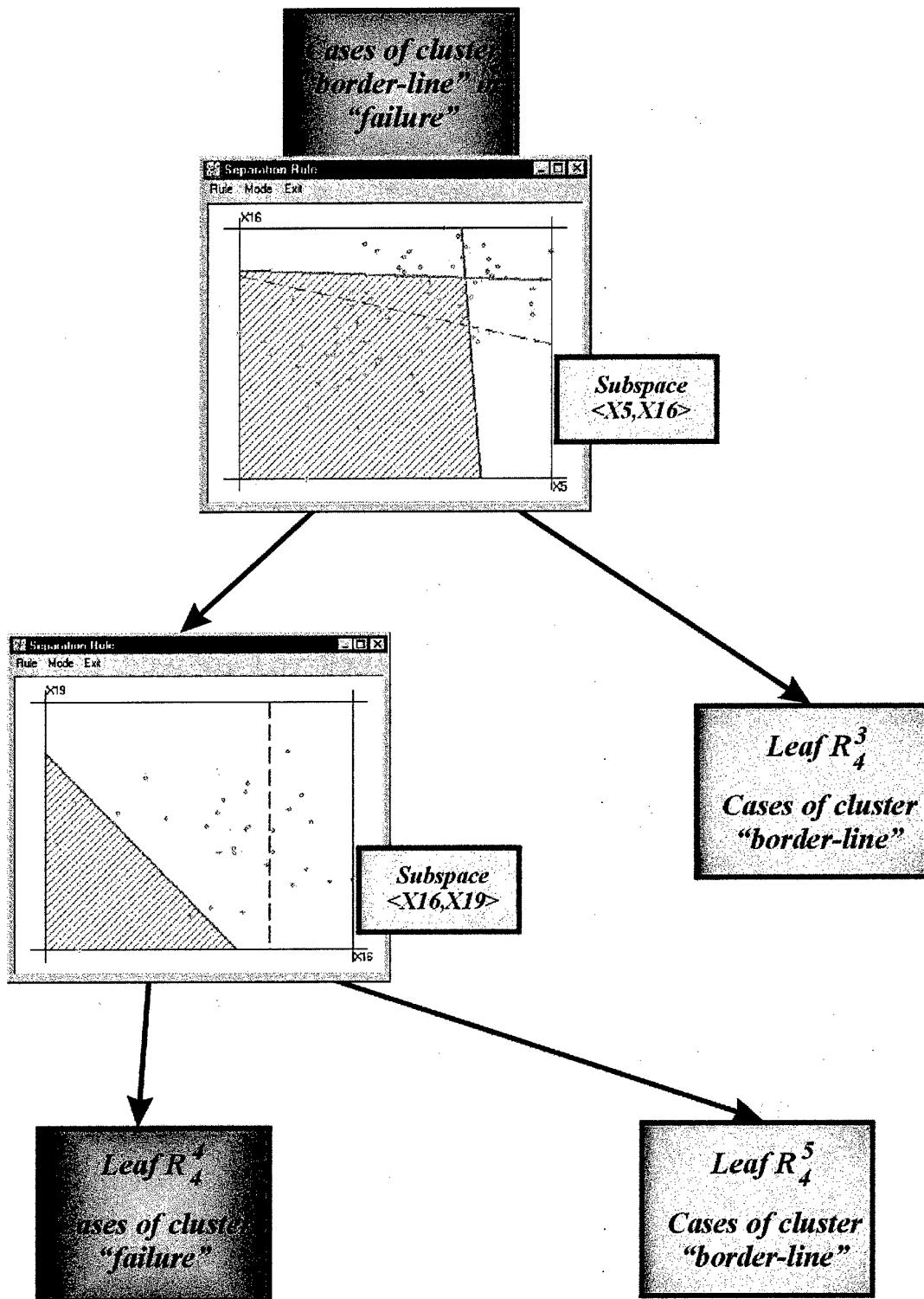


Fig. 4.10. Decision tree #3 for the node of meta-tree $\langle \text{Status of performance "0"} \vee \text{"1"} \rangle$ (see fig. 4.1)

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Let us stress again that numerical results given in tab.4.1 were obtained over testing data that were not involved in the learning procedure to design decision making rules.

Table 4.1. Numerical results regarding to the statistical assessment of the quality of decision making procedure over the testing database.

<i>Node of meta-tree</i>	<i>Probabilit-ies</i>	<i>Decision tree fig. 4.6.</i>	<i>Decision tree fig. 4.8.</i>	<i>Decision tree fig. 4.9</i>	<i>Decision tree fig. 4.10</i>	<i>Voting "two of three"</i>	<i>Voting "at least one for failure"</i>
<i>Status of performance</i> "-1" \vee "0" \vee "1"	$p(-1/-1)$	0.96					
	$p(-1/0 \vee 1)$	0.04					
	$p(0/1/-1)$	0.05					
	$p(0/1/0 \vee 1)$	0.95					
<i>Status of performance</i> "0" \vee "1"	$p(0/0)$		0.935	0.91	0.918	0.936	0.952
	$p(0/1)$		0.065	0.09	0.082	0.064	0.048
	$p(1/0)$		0.25	0.3	0.19	0.214	0.303
	$P(1/1)$		0.75	0.7	0.81	0.786	0.697

While designing decision trees we restricted ourselves only by two-level trees. It is obvious that adding one more level could lead to a higher quality of classification up to totally perfect classification. But we aimed at demonstration of benefit of use of collective decision making.

Nevertheless, one can see that resulting classification procedure possess high probabilities of perfect classification. Note that there is no cases of the cluster "*failure*" that was classified as belonging to the cluster "*no failure*". This result may be considered as an advantage of three-cluster interpretation of the cases of database proposed in this research. Note as well that utilization of collective of decision trees makes it possible to reach more high level of perfect classification. In *Appendix A2* results of testing of each decision tree regarding to each case of testing data and results of use voting procedures according to two schemes are given.

5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

5.1. Introduction

The theoretical foundation of Algebraic Bayes' Networks (ABN) and its utilization in Knowledge Engineering as a formal model for experts' knowledge formal specification were considered in details in the Interim Report [IR-98]. It was justified that ABN model makes possible to solve a task of formal specification of knowledge under uncertainty and its consistency maintenance. We come back to this problem in this Report. In addition to the material given in the [IR-98] in this Report we present numerical demonstration of the approach and on the basis of the developed case study.

This model is based on probabilistic approach. In traditional probabilistic models, an uncertainty of expert's statement is described by a real number, i.e. by the probabilities of truth of expert's statements. It is well known and it was shown by examples in [IR-98] that in many practical cases expert is not able at all to estimate precisely probabilities associated with statements about dependencies in a domain. At the best case expert is able to determine the lower and the upper bounds of the above probabilities, i.e. to determine so-called interval probability. This case doesn't match "classical" view on the probability theory.

In its nature, interval probabilities don't fix any probabilistic distribution. If multitude of events with assigned interval probabilities is given then even for the case when these events are probabilistically independent, interval probabilities of events don't determine a probability distribution but determine an indefinite class of distributions. This peculiarity reflects the uncertain nature of expert's knowledge about a domain. To cope with interval-valued probabilities, it was proposed a number of approaches. One of them is so-called Algebraic Bayes' Network formal model proposed by author of this Report and considered in detail in [IR-98]. One more source of problems associated with uncertain expert knowledge processing and representation is its inconsistency that in many cases takes place.

In this Report we omitted the main part of conceptual explanation of ABN idea and don't concern to interrelations between ABN model and other formalisms. These aspects were presented in [IR-98] in details. Instead, below we describe the ABN formal model, its components and related algorithms and focused on its application-oriented details. Of course, a part of this section coincides with material given in [IR-98]. The main part of material is repeated to make this section in some sense self-contained and comprehensible in respect to the application-oriented material and numerical demonstrations.

5.2. Properties of expert information

At first phase of life circle of any technical device, as a rule there is no statistical data to develop its diagnostic model. The most frequent case is that only experts' information may be available if there are experts experienced with prototypes or analogues.

Unfortunately human knowledge is often imprecise and inconsistent to the extent to be possible to specify this knowledge in precise formal terms. The latter leads to a number of difficult problems in its practical use within knowledge-based decision support systems, in particular, in diagnostic systems. Human reasoning is very difficult for formal modeling as well. Although experts' knowledge and human reasoning formal specification is a subjects of intensive and deep research during at least last two decades it remains to be a hot problem in Knowledge Engineering up to now.

It was noticed in [IR-98] that the causes of uncertainty and inconsistency of expert information may be as follows:

- Qualitative form of expert statements about dependencies over a set of entities of a domain that makes its unique formalization impossible;
- Very close semantics (sense) of the most part of expert's statements that may be expressed in diverse terms. As a rule, different experts express the same dependency in different words;
- Diversity of experts' experience what can be a cause of hard contradictions.

5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

- Incompleteness of experts' knowledge; in addition, experts are often unable to verbalize their knowledge.

It is generally adopted that to formalize expert's knowledge, an approximate model is to be used. There is no sense to use any precise formal model to formalize imprecise information. It was shown in [IR-98] that expert is not able to estimate probabilities of any statements or combination of statements precisely, i.e. in terms of point-wise probability estimation. In addition, it can be demonstrated by numerical examples that probabilistic models designed on the basis of an expert information specified in terms of point-wise probabilities should be inconsistent inevitably. Therefore, such models cannot be used for correct decision making.

5.3. Advantages of probabilistic model of expert information vs. fuzzy one

There exist a number of approaches for dealing with uncertainty of knowledge. Among them several pseudo-physical logic, many-valued logic, fuzzy logic and theory of possibilities ([Zadeh-78], [Dubois et al -88]) are the most popular ones. But probabilistic model takes a noticeable role because it has a number of important advantages comparing to other mentioned ones. They are as follows:

- probabilistic model is based on a well developed mathematical theory, i.e. probabilistic theory;
- probabilistic models are computationally feasible: due to Large Number theorems, we can deduce and check probabilistic formulae by using repeated statistical simulation of representative size; model output obtained theoretically within probabilistic approach may be validated by simulation;
- between all known formalisms, probabilistic methods provide the most well-developed description of dependency which in probabilistic approach is described by the notion of conditional probability.

Unfortunately, classical probabilistic models based on traditional axiomatic approach are not well fitted for modeling of uncertainty of expert information and human reasoning. The main reason is that it is not clear how probabilities could be obtained. As a rule, empirically assessed probabilities are imprecise and such probabilities can be assigned by confidence interval. A large amount of expert information cannot be expressed in any verbal form. The last deficiency is common for all formal models of uncertainty.

In [IR-98] we have analyzed the existing probability-based approaches developed to deal with interval probabilities ([Dempster-66], [Shafer-76], [Fagin et al-88], [Fagin et al-89]). It was shown that ABN formal model may be considered as a special case of the approach developed in [Fagin et al-88] and [Fagin et al-89]. In this approach a probabilistic space is introduced in axiomatic way via multitude of so-called basic random events that may be dependent in probabilistic sense and may be incomplete. The latter means that in such probabilistic space there exist random events that do not belong to the algebra of event that is generated by the multitude of basic events and operations of union (\cup), intersection (\cap) and complement (\complement).

However, Fagin's et al model which uses interval probabilistic measure of knowledge uncertainty is very difficult for implementation in practice, requires a technique to deal with expert's information as it is and doesn't propose a standard way of expert's knowledge representation. ABN model is an attempt to overcome these problems and oriented on practical cases of information extracted from experts.

5.4. Concept of knowledge piece and background probabilistic knowledge

In this subsection the basic concepts and notions to build a model of so-called Algebraic Bayes' Network (ABN) are introduced. This model, in turn, is utilized for expert information formal specification and consistent processing.

5.4.1. Denotations

Let $\Phi_0 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, $x_i \in \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$ be a multitude of propositions and $F(X) = F(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k})$ be a formula from the set of well formed formulae given over Φ_0 where $X = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}$ – is a subset of propositions Φ_0 . Sometimes we shall consider a subset

5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

$X = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}$ as a *tuple* (vector) or as *sequence* of symbols without changing a denotation if its sense will be clear from the context.

Propositions $\{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}$ can be used with negation (for example, $\neg x_i$) or without it (x_i). To avoid confusion for the case when we use symbol x_i in the sense of argument name (it can be substituted by literal with negation or without it) we denote the last case as \tilde{x}_i putting symbol " \sim " above corresponded name. This way is used to denote a set of arguments, therefore \tilde{X} is denotation of the set of all components of the vector X . For disjunction and conjunction we use symbols " \vee " and " \wedge " respectively. In most cases the symbol " \wedge " is omitted.

Let $\tilde{X} = \{\tilde{x}_{i_1}, \tilde{x}_{i_2}, \dots, \tilde{x}_{i_k}\}$ be a set of propositions. Two subsets \tilde{X}_1 and \tilde{X}_2 such that $\tilde{X}_1 \cup \tilde{X}_2 = \tilde{X}$, and $\tilde{X}_1 \cap \tilde{X}_2 = \emptyset$ are called partitions of a set $\tilde{X} = \{\tilde{x}_{i_1}, \tilde{x}_{i_2}, \dots, \tilde{x}_{i_k}\}$. A symbol of proposition " \tilde{x}_i " can be interpreted as denotation of a random event as well. Similar, a conjunction of propositions may be considered as complex random event that is realized if all its arguments (propositions with or without negation) are assigned by truth value "*true*". In such an interpretation of a conjunction of propositions we may call it as random binary sequence and assign its components a value "*1*" or "*0*" depending on whether the corresponded random event is realized or not.

It should be noted that interpretation of a conjunction of propositions either as formulae or as random event is based on the isomorphism of algebra of logic formulae and algebra of random events that was discussed elsewhere in the literature.

Below in the next subsection we consider basic components of Algebraic Bayes' Network, i.e. so-called "knowledge pieces" of different ranks. In the [IR-98] these notions were discussed in details and were explained conceptually. In this Report we describe them and ANB itself in more formal way. Instead, the practical application is discussed in more depth.

5.4.2. Knowledge Piece of rank 2 (two-propositions knowledge piece)

Let us consider a two-element multitude of propositions $X_{(2)}(i, j) = \{x_i, x_j\}$. Proposition without negation we call as positive one. Let us introduce in a standard way an order relation over the family set over the set $X_{(2)}(i, j) = \{x_i, x_j\}$, i.e. $\aleph = \{\{x_i\}, \{x_j\}, \{x_i, x_j\}\}$. Each subset of this family set can be mapped to the conjunction constituted by positive propositions contained within it. These propositions may be ordered in the same way as corresponded subsets of the family set \aleph . Finally, let each conjunction be assigned a probability.¹

Definition 5.1. Knowledge piece of rank 2 is a partially ordered set of positive conjunctions that corresponds to elements of family set of the set $X_{(2)}(i, j)$ each assigned a truth probability, i.e.

$$K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j) = \{<\{x_i\}, p(x_i)>, <\{x_j\}, p(x_j)>, <\{x_i, x_j\}, p(x_i, x_j)>\}. \quad (5.1)$$

Propositions $\{x_i, x_j\}$ constituting knowledge piece $K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)$ are called its arguments. ■

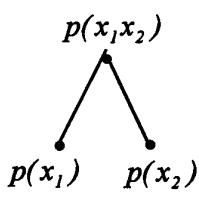


Fig.5.1. Hasse diagram for knowledge piece $X_{(2)} = \{x_1, x_2\}$

Graphical representation of a knowledge piece $K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)$ of rank 2 in the form of Hasse diagram [Birkhoff-67] is depicted in the fig.5.1.

Definition 5.2. Knowledge piece $K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)$ is called *consistent* if the following constraints are met:

$$p(x_1) \leq 1, \quad (5.2)$$

$$p(x_2) \leq 1, \quad (5.3)$$

$$p(x_1) - p(x_1, x_2) \geq 0, \quad (5.4)$$

$$p(x_2) - p(x_1, x_2) \geq 0, \quad (5.5)$$

¹ Let us emphasise that the probabilities have to meet probabilistic axioms.

$$1 - p(x_1) - p(x_2) + p(x_1x_2) \geq 0. \blacksquare \quad (5.6)$$

Inequalities (5.2)–(5.3) correspond to the probabilistic axioms and represent background knowledge of probability theory that has to be met in any case. If these inequalities are held for probabilities $p(x_1)$, $p(x_2)$, $p(x_1x_2)$ then there exist an assignment of probabilities of all other formulae defined over propositions x_i , x_j which probabilities meet probabilistic axioms.

5.4.3. Knowledge piece of rank 3 (three-propositions knowledge piece)

The notion of knowledge piece of the rank 3 is defined like one of the rank 2.

Definition 5.3. Knowledge piece of rank 3 is a partially ordered set of positive conjunctions that corresponds to elements of the family set of the set $X_{(3)}(i, j, k) = \{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$ each assigned a truth probability, i.e.

$$K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k) = \{<\{x_i\}, p(x_i)>, <\{x_j\}, p(x_j)>, <\{x_k\}, p(x_k)>, <\{x_i, x_j\}, p(x_i x_j)>, <\{x_i, x_k\}, p(x_i x_k)>, <\{x_j, x_k\}, p(x_j x_k)>, <\{x_i, x_j, x_k\}, p(x_i x_j x_k)>\}. \quad (5.7)$$

Propositions $\{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$ constituting knowledge piece $K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k)$ are called its arguments. ■

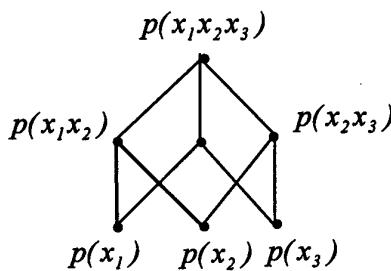


Fig.5.2. Hasse diagram for knowledge piece $X_{(3)} = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$

Graphical representation of a knowledge piece $K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k)$ of rank 3 is depicted in the fig.5.2.

Definition 5.4. Knowledge piece $K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k)$ is called *consistent* if all knowledge pieces of rank 2 contained in it are consistent according to the *Definition 5.2* (i.e. knowledge pieces $K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)$, $K^{(2)}(x_i, x_k)$, $K^{(2)}(x_j, x_k)$ are consistent) and in addition the following constraints are met:

$$p(x_j x_k) - p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad (5.8)$$

$$p(x_i x_k) - p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad (5.9)$$

$$p(x_i x_j) - p(x_i x_2 x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.10)$$

$$p(x_k) - p(x_i x_k) - p(x_j x_k) + p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad (5.11)$$

$$p(x_j) - p(x_i x_j) - p(x_j x_k) + p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad (5.12)$$

$$p(x_i) - p(x_i x_j) - p(x_i x_k) + p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad (5.13)$$

$$1 - p(x_i) - p(x_j) - p(x_k) + p(x_i x_j) + p(x_i x_k) + p(x_j x_k) - p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0. \blacksquare \quad (5.14)$$

Consistency conditions formulated in the *Definition 5.4* for knowledge piece of rank 3 have the same sense how it was commented for consistency conditions of knowledge piece of rank 2. Let us repeat them in brief. If knowledge piece of rank 3 is consistent then there exists a consistent assignment of truth probabilities of all other formulae that may be defined over the same propositions². Inequalities (5.9)–(5.14) represent background knowledge of probability theory regarding to the probabilities associated with knowledge piece of rank 3.

We can define the notion of knowledge piece of any arbitrary rank but no more than the number of atomic propositions in the set Φ_0 (see [IR-98]).

In *Appendix A3* the full form of consistency conditions are given for the knowledge pieces up to the rank 4.

² It is shown below that they can be calculated uniquely.

5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

Fortunately, in practice of knowledge engineering we may restrict ourselves by considering knowledge pieces of rank of not more than 4 (see [IR-98]). On the one hand, it was discovered experimentally that expert is not able to assess dependency over more than three atomic statements. On the other hand, if a rank of knowledge piece is increased then reliability of the involved probability assessment decreases significantly. Therefore we may restrict ourselves by considering of knowledge pieces of the rank no more than 3. Below it is shown that for consistency maintenance we need to deal with knowledge pieces of rank 4 ([IR-98]).

5.5. Algebraic Bayes' Network: Formal Definition

The above materials form a foundation for introduction a notion of the Algebraic Bayes' Network that is basic one for design of algorithms of expert information processing. In this subsection the corresponding formal framework is described.

It was mentioned above that experts are able to talk reliably about dependencies over no more than three atomic statements, i.e. about truth probabilities of formulae determined over sets of propositions $X_{(1)}(i) = \{x_i\}$, $X_{(2)}(i, j) = \{x_i, x_j\}$ and $X_{(3)}(i, j, k) = \{x_i, x_j, x_k\}$. This experimentally inferred conclusion makes possible to restrict ourselves by knowledge pieces of rank 2 and 3 as standard patterns of knowledge. The latter can serve as justification for assumption that after processing of fragments of expert information aimed at consistency maintenance the result may be represented as a set of consistent knowledge pieces as follows:

$$KB = \{\{K^{(1)}(x_i)\}_{i \in I_n}, \{K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)\}_{i, j \in I_n}, \{K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k)\}_{i, j, k \in I_n}\}. \quad (5.15)$$

However, different instances of knowledge pieces in (5.15) may contain the same propositions and, hence, may be dependent. It means that they have to be structured in a formal framework in such a way that it should be possible to check and maintain consistency of the entire multitude of knowledge pieces. For example, the same conjunctions can be contained in a number of knowledge pieces. Hence, they have to be assigned the same intervals of truth probability but the latter may be not held in for knowledge pieces contained in (5.15) because they might be extracted from different experts and/or independently on each other. This means that a multitude of above knowledge pieces may be inconsistent and, hence, doesn't represent a knowledge base. This multitude is a "half-finished product" only and further processing is needed to constitute knowledge base.

As a structure for joint representation of a multitude of knowledge pieces that makes it possible to detect and eliminate contradictions of knowledge pieces we propose to use a so-called "Algebraic Bayes' Network" (ABN) structure ([Gorodetski-92], [Gorodetski et al-97]).

Definition 5.5. Let us call an Algebraic Bayes' Network a set of consistent knowledge pieces

$$KB^3 = \{\{K^{(1)}(x_i)\}_{i \in I_n}, \{K^{(2)}(x_i, x_j)\}_{i, j \in I_n}, \{K^{(3)}(x_i, x_j, x_k)\}_{i, j, k \in I_n}\}$$

structured as Hasse diagram (semi-lattice) ([Birkhof-85]) added with

- a multitude of constraints conditioned by probabilistic axioms over truth probabilities of all conjunctions that are contained in the above multitude KB ; (they form so-called background knowledge);
- algebra of formulae; and
- inclusion-exclusion formulae for truth probabilities of formulae of the multitude KB . ■

Let us explain the introduced notion by example.

Example 5.5.1.

Let ABN consist of four knowledge pieces formed due to expert information about possible dependencies over six propositions $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6\}$ ([Gorodetski et al-97]):

$$KB = \{K^{(3)}(x_1, x_2, x_3), K^{(3)}(x_2, x_3, x_4), K^{(2)}(x_4, x_5), K^{(2)}(x_5, x_6)\}.$$

³ Denotation "KB" for this set emphasizes the fact that it can be considered as knowledge base.

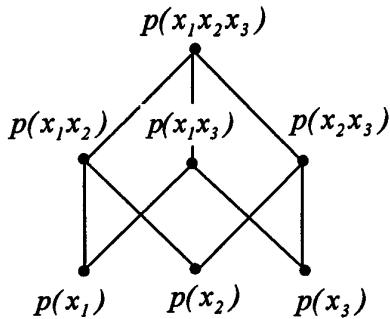
5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

Graphical presentation of these knowledge pieces is given in the fig. 5.3. In the fig.5.4 graphical representation of the corresponding (structured) ABN is given.

It can be shown that ABN model is a special case of model known as extended probabilistic space ([Fagin et al-88]). Indeed, ABN is an extended probabilistic space under the following assumptions:

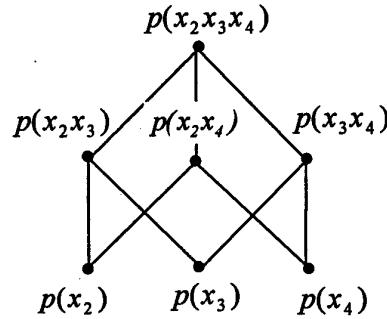
1. A multitude of basic events (algebra of family set) isomorphous to the algebra of logic formulae is not known. Interval assessments of truth probabilities are known for a subset of logic formulae over set of atomic propositions $\Phi_0 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$;
2. ABN contains only positive conjunctions of atomic propositions of a length no more than 3.

The necessity of both above assumptions is conditioned by a specific of application that has to deal with expert information processing. Indeed, the first assumption is conditioned by a limit of information that can be extracted from experts, and the second one reflects the restricted possibility of an expert to discover dependencies. It should be noted that a model of extended probabilistic space ([Fagin et al-88]) requires too much information to be practically helpful within a knowledge engineering tasks.



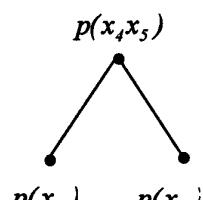
$K^{(3)}(x_1, x_2, x_3):$
 $p(x_1) \in [0.5, 1.0], p(x_2) \in [0.6, 0.8],$
 $p(x_3) \in [0.9, 1.0], p(x_1x_2) \in [0.1, 0.8],$
 $p(x_1x_3) \in [0.4, 1.0], p(x_2x_3) \in [0.5, 0.8],$
 $p(x_1x_2x_3) \in [0, 0.8].$

Fig.5.3.a



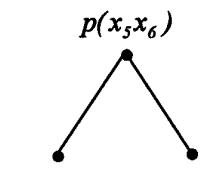
$K^{(3)}(x_2, x_3, x_4):$
 $p(x_2) \in [0.5, 0.7], p(x_3) \in [0.8, 1.0],$
 $p(x_4) \in [0.3, 0.5], p(x_2x_3) \in [0.5, 0.7],$
 $p(x_2x_4) \in [0, 0.2], p(x_3x_4) \in [0.3, 0.5],$
 $p(x_2x_3x_4) \in [0, 0.2].$

Fig.5.3.b



$K^{(2)}(x_4, x_5):$
 $p(x_4) \in [0, 1.0], p(x_5) \in [0, 1.0],$
 $p(x_4x_5) \in [0, 0.8].$

Fig.5.3.c



$K^{(2)}(x_5, x_6):$
 $p(x_5) \in [0, 1.0], p(x_6) \in [0, 1.0],$
 $p(x_5x_6) \in [0, 0.5].$

Fig.5.3.d

Fig.5.3. A multitude of knowledge pieces with assigned truth probabilities of the formulae corresponded to its nodes (components of ABN) given below in fig.5.4.

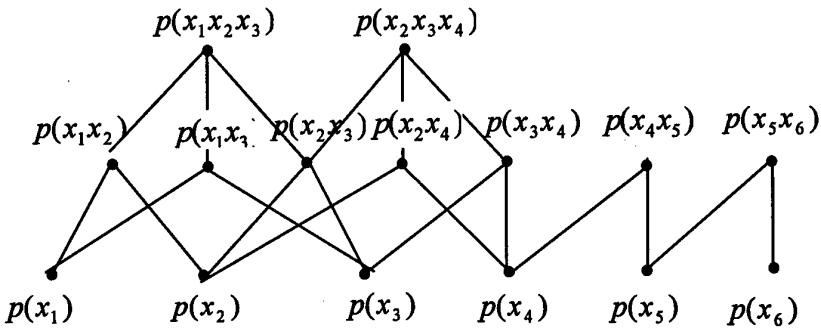


Fig.5.4. An example of graphical representation of ABN contained four knowledge pieces.

5.6. Consistency of Algebraic Bayes' Networks: Background Knowledge

5.6.1. Internal Consistency of Algebraic Bayes' Network

In *Definition 5.5* ABN was determined as structured multitude of consistent knowledge pieces. It can be shown that consistency of each knowledge piece does not guarantee consistency of ABN in strict sense. Let n be a cardinality of the multitude of propositions $\Phi_0 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ that are arguments of ABN. To check consistency of such ABN in the strict probabilistic sense, it should be necessary to form a knowledge piece of rank n and to check its consistency in the same way which was specified above for knowledge pieces of rank 2 and 3. But ABN of such rank consists of $(2^n - 1)^4$ elements and probabilistic background knowledge imposes $3^n - 1$ equations or inequalities. Even for relatively low value of n the tasks of checking consistency (checking the existence of a solution of the corresponding inequalities) is too complex.. It is clear that such size of constraint satisfaction task is too high to be used in practice. However, dimensions of real life applications may be much more. This means that "direct way" of consistency checking and maintaining is infeasible.

On the other hand, as a rule, expert's probabilities are very approximate and incomplete and this is a justification for use of more weak condition for checking and maintaining consistency. To assess consistency, we propose to utilize a notion of linearly ordered set of ABN consistency degrees.

Definition 5.6. Algebraic Bayes' Network is *locally consistent* if and only if all its knowledge pieces are consistent. ■

Local consistency of ABN is the minimal (the weakest) degree of its consistency. I should be noted that local consistency is provided by *Definition 5.5* of ABN. It is obvious that local consistency is a necessary consistency condition of ABN.

It was mentioned above that different knowledge pieces may contain common conjunctions. For example, ABN depicted in the fig.5.4 contain conjunctions $x_2, x_3, x_2x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6$ that are included in several knowledge pieces. To be locally consistent, such conjunctions can be assigned by distinct values of truth probabilities in different knowledge pieces because experts can provide a contradictory information and different knowledge pieces can be formed by experts of different experience. Within ABN common conjunctions have to be equal.

Definition 5.7. Two knowledge pieces of an ABN are called *coordinated* if truth probabilities of all common conjunctions within these knowledge pieces are assigned equal values. ■

Definition 5.8. Locally consistent ABN is called *internally consistent* if and only if all its knowledge pieces are coordinated. ■

⁴ This number is equal to the total number of conjunctions of length no more than n without empty conjunction.

5.1. Algebraic Bayes' Networks for Knowledge Engineering

Algorithm of checking and maintenance of ABN internal consistency is relatively simple. Let us describe it idea.

Let all knowledge pieces be enumerated by indexes from 1 to M , where M is a total number of knowledge pieces in ABN. Let Ω be a multitude of all knowledge pieces. Let us denote each knowledge piece number i by KP_i , $i \in 1, 2, \dots, M$.

Algorithm of maintenance of internal consistency of ABN:

1. In the multitude Ω select a knowledge piece KP_i indexed by minimal number i and then select all knowledge pieces having indexes $k > i$, $k \leq M$ and constituting nonempty multitude of common conjunctions together with KP_i . Let us denote the multitude of such knowledge pieces including KP_i as $KP_{\geq i}$;
2. Form a list of common conjunctions $Con_{\geq i}$ of the multitude $KP_{\geq i}$ and for each conjunction $C_j \in Con$ compute intersections of intervals of truth probability assigned to each conjunction within all knowledge pieces of the multitude $KP_{\geq i}$ (This operation intend to make all knowledge pieces coordinated). If all above intersections are nonempty then assign the resulted (coordinated) intervals to the corresponding conjunctions. Otherwise, ABN is internally inconsistent;
3. Delete knowledge piece KP_i from the multitude Ω . If Ω is nonempty then go to the step 2.;
4. Solve tasks of local consistency maintenance for each KP_i that contains at least one interval of truth probability assigned a new value in the step 2. ■

After running steps 1 - 4 the possible outputs can be as follows:

- either *inconsistency* of ABN is ascertained;
- either coordination of all knowledge pieces is ascertained and therefore ABN *internal consistency* is reached;
- or not all knowledge pieces turns out coordinated. In the last case all steps 1 - 4 have to be repeated once more.

The above algorithm converge to the decision under search because all intervals are changed monotonically (they may become only more narrow) and value of intervals are restricted from below by empty set.

Example 5.6.1.

Let us demonstrate the algorithm of internal consistency maintenance for ABN depicted in the fig.5.4 assigned by truth values given in the fig.5.3 ([Gorodetski et al - 97]).

The first run through the steps 1-3.

Consider the first pair of knowledge pieces, i.e. $K^{(3)}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and $K^{(3)}(x_2, x_3, x_4)$. They have three common conjunctions but only one is needed to be coordinated. The result is as follows:

$$p^*(x_2) \in [0.6, 0.7].$$

Two other common conjunctions preserve their truth probability intervals, i.e.

$$p^*(x_3) \in [0.9, 1.0], \quad p^*(x_2, x_3) \in [0.5, 0.7].$$

The second run through the steps 1-3.

Consider the second pair of knowledge pieces, i.e. $K^{(3)}(x_2, x_3, x_4)$ и $K^{(2)}(x_4, x_5)$. For them one interval of truth probability is modified and takes value

$$p^*(x_4) \in [0.3, 0.5].$$

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The third run through the steps 1-3.

Consider the pair of knowledge pieces $K^{(2)}(x_4, x_5)$ и $K^{(2)}(x_5, x_6)$. Their common conjunction x_5 is coordinated. Resulting value of its interval of truth probability is preserved:

$$p(x_5) \in [0,1.0].$$

Run of the step 4.

Run procedures of local consistency maintenance for all knowledge pieces of ABN. The final result is as follows ([Gorodetski et al-97]):

$$K^{(3)}(x_1, x_2, x_3):$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1) &\in [0.5,1.0], p(x_2) \in [0.6,0.7], \\ p(x_3) &\in [0.9,1.0], p(x_1x_2) \in [0.1,0.7], \\ p(x_1x_3) &\in [0.4,1.0], p(x_2x_3) \in [0.5,0.7], \\ p(x_1x_2x_3) &\in [0,0.7]. \end{aligned}$$

$$K^{(3)}(x_2, x_3, x_4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_2) &\in [0.6,0.7], p(x_3) \in [0.9,1.0], \\ p(x_4) &\in [0.3,0.5], p(x_2x_3) \in [0.5,0.7], \\ p(x_2x_4) &\in [0,0.2], p(x_3x_4) \in [0.3,0.5], \\ p(x_2x_3x_4) &\in [0,0.2]. \end{aligned}$$

$$K^{(2)}(x_4, x_5):$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_4) &\in [0.3,0.5], p(x_5) \in [0.5,0.7], \\ p(x_4x_5) &\in [0,0.5]. \end{aligned}$$

$$K^{(2)}(x_5, x_6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_5) &\in [0.5,0.7], p(x_6) \in [0.3,0.5], \\ p(x_5x_6) &\in [0,0.5]. \end{aligned}$$

After running the step 4 of algorithm all conjunctions are assigned by coordinated values of truth probabilities. Therefore, the resulting ABN is internally consistent. ■

The above algorithm does not cover the case when there exist a number of order relations over truth probabilities of conjunctions. This case was considered in [IR-98] and we demonstrate it numerically below within the case study related to application of ABN to the carburetor of a car engine diagnosis in *Subsection 5.7*.

Unfortunately, internal consistency of ABN doesn't guarantee the strict consistency of the latter. Internal consistency condition is only necessary but not sufficient. Let us consider example demonstrating the case when ABN is internally consistent but not consistent in the strict sense.

Example 5.6.2.

Let us consider ABN depicted in the fig.5.5 that consists of three knowledge pieces of rank 2 ([Gorodetski et al-97]) and which conjunctions are assigned truth value intervals as follows:

$$p(x_1) \in [0.5,1.0], p(x_2) = 0.5, p(x_3) = 0.5, p(x_1x_2) = 0.5, p(x_1x_3) = 0.5, p(x_2x_3) = 0.$$

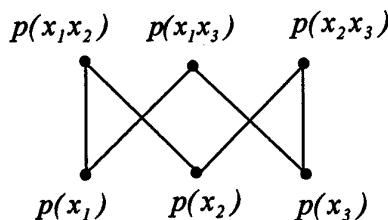


Fig.5.5. An example of internally consistent ABN that is inconsistent in strict sense

It can be shown that this ABN is inconsistent. In accordance with *Definition 5.10* this ABN is internally consistent. However, in this ABN there does not exist any consistent assignment for truth probability of conjunction $x_1x_2x_3$ that meets the probabilistic axioms imposed on this conjunction, i.e. interval of truth probability $p(x_1x_2x_3)$ of this ABN is empty. ■

5.6.2. *External consistency*

Let us introduce one more degree of ABN consistency that corresponds to the next degree of consistency compared to the both local and internal degrees of ABN consistency.

Definition 5.10. Internally consistent ABN is called *externally consistent* if assignment of truth probabilities of all its maximal elements is consistent. ■

Let us first explain new terms used in the *Definition 5.10*. In *Definition 5.10* a notion of *maximal element* of ABN is introduced. This notion is used in the lattice theory sense. A Hasse diagram ([Birkhof-67]) of ABN that is used for graphical representation of the latter is a semi-lattice and, saying informally, an element of ABN is the maximal one if it corresponds to a conjunction of maximal length within a knowledge piece to which it belongs. It should be noted that a maximal element can belong to an only knowledge piece and each knowledge piece may contain only maximal element ([Birkhof-67]). For example, in ABN depicted in 5.4 maximal elements are $x_1x_2x_3$, $x_2x_3x_4$, x_4x_5 and x_5x_6 . It is obvious that the maximal element of a knowledge piece determine uniquely the *structure* of the latter.

Let us now explain the term "*externally consistent* assignments of truth probabilities of all maximal elements". Each maximal element and corresponding knowledge piece may be considered as contained in a knowledge piece of a higher rank. For example, knowledge pieces $K^{(2)}(x_1, x_2)$, $K^{(2)}(x_1, x_3)$ and $K^{(2)}(x_2, x_3)$ that form ABN depicted on the fig.5.4 may be considered as contained within knowledge piece $K^{(3)}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ of rank 3 depicted in the fig.5.5. Knowledge pieces depicted in the fig.5.3a, 5.3.b may be considered as contained within the knowledge piece of rank 4 depicted in the fig.5.7. In the both above mentioned figures dotted lines correspond to the edges of Hasse diagram that are not contained in the original knowledge pieces.

Let us consider an example to demonstrate the basic idea of notion of external consistency.

Example 5.6.3.

Let us consider ABN containing a multitude of knowledge pieces depicted in the fig. 5.5 and marked by unbroken lines. This ABN is internally consistent and truth probabilities of its conjunctions are as follows:

$$p(x_1) \in [0.5, 0.6], p(x_2) \in [0.5, 0.6], p(x_3) \in [0.5, 0.6], \quad (5.16)$$

$$p(x_1x_2) \in [0.5, 0.6], p(x_1x_3) \in [0, 0.5], p(x_2x_3) \in [0.4, 0.6].$$

In the original ABN a truth probability of the conjunction $x_1x_2x_3$ is absent but it has to meet constraints imposed by background probabilistic knowledge (5.2) - (5.6) and (5.8)-(5.14). It should be noted that a subset of these constraints has been already met in the original ABN because the latter is internally consistent. If intervals of some truth probabilities were narrowed, then, nevertheless, already

met constraints would not be broken. For example (see fig. 5.6) the probabilities $p(x_1x_2)$, $p(x_1x_3)$, $p(x_2x_3)$ are consistent internally within corresponding knowledge pieces of rank 2. To meet the external consistency conditions, the following constraints have been held:

$$p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.17)$$

$$p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.18)$$

$$p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.19)$$

$$p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.20)$$

$$p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.21)$$

$$p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0, \quad (5.22)$$

$$1 - p(x_1) - p(x_2) - p(x_3) + p(x_1x_2) + p(x_1x_3) +$$

$$+ p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0. \quad (5.23)$$

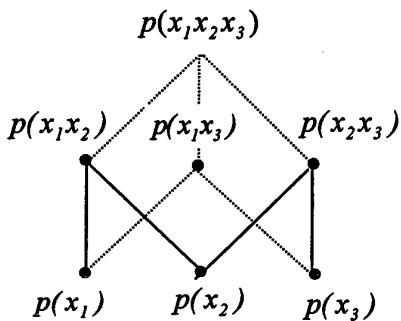


Fig.5.6.Knowledge piece of rank 3 that contains maximal elements of knowledge pieces of rank 2

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This task is simple enough. It results in externally consistent solution that differs from the original internally consistent ABN only in the estimation of truth probability of the conjunction x_1x_3 , that is $p(x_1x_3) \in [0.3, 0.5]$. ■

Thus, a task of checking and maintenance of external consistency of an ABN is reduced to the checking and maintenance consistency of a knowledge piece of minimal rank that contains corresponding maximal elements of ABN.

Let us consider the task in a more formal way.

Definition 5.12. Knowledge piece of minimal rank that contains maximal elements of a given

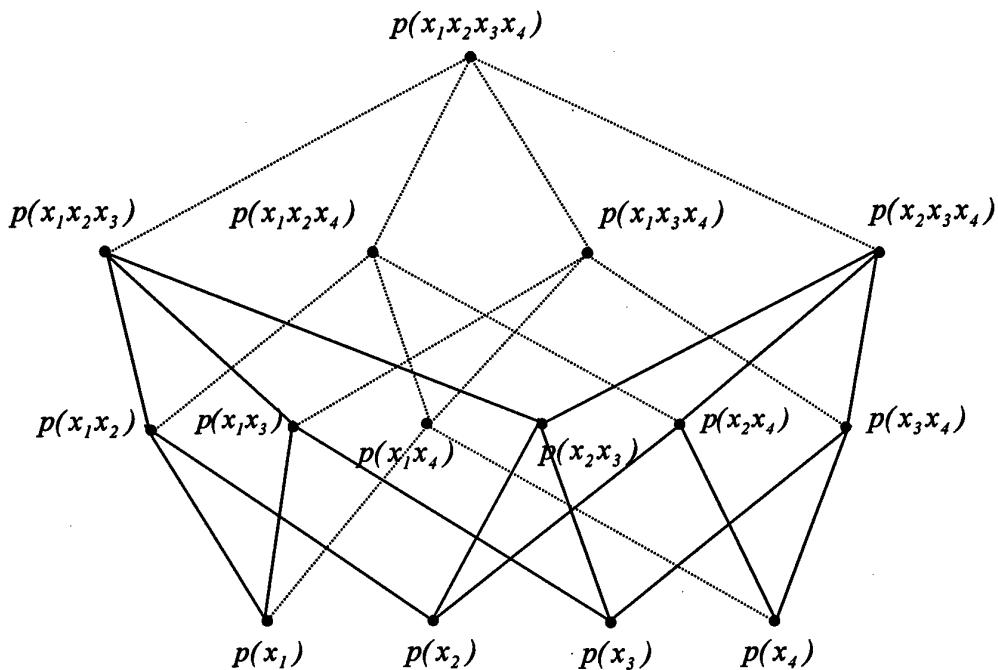


Fig.5.7. Knowledge piece of rank 4 that contains maximal elements of knowledge pieces of rank 3

multitude of knowledge pieces $K = \{K^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^q$ is called minimal external knowledge piece for the multitude K . ■

In fig.5.6 and fig.5.7 the minimal external knowledge pieces of rank 3 and 4 respectively are depicted.

Let us remind that we consider ABN that contains knowledge pieces of rank no more than 3. Therefore, we can restrict ourselves by the following particular cases:

1. External consistency of a subset of knowledge pieces of rank 2 contained in a minimal external knowledge piece of rank 3. It is clear that every minimal external knowledge piece may contain no more than 3 knowledge pieces of rank 2;
2. External consistency of a subset of knowledge pieces of rank 3 contained in a minimal external knowledge piece of rank 4. In this case a minimal external knowledge piece may contain two, three or four knowledge pieces of rank 3;
3. External consistency of a subset of knowledge pieces that contains knowledge pieces either rank 2 or rank 3. The number of variants of knowledge pieces in this case is more than in the previous two ones.

Let us consider above listed special cases.

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1. External consistency of ABN that contains knowledge pieces of ranks no more than 2

In this case the task is reduced to one that deals only with internal consistency of knowledge pieces of rank 3. Algorithm of the task solving was demonstrated in the example 5.6.3 and consists in meeting constraints (5.17) - (5.23). In principle, the set of constraints (5.17) - (5.23) can be simplified if there is no necessity to estimate intervals of truth probabilities of conjunctions that are not contained in the original ABN. For example, if ABN consists of two knowledge pieces, say, $K^{(2)}(x_1, x_2)$, $K^{(2)}(x_1, x_3)$ (see fig.5.6), then there is no need to estimate probabilities $p(x_2 x_3)$ и $p(x_1 x_2 x_3)$. This task is slightly simpler, however, in such approach we do not preserve a standard form of task formulation. To preserve it, one has to take into account the full multitude of constraints.

Figures 5.6 and 5.7 cover all special cases of ABN that contains knowledge pieces of rank of no more than 2.

2. External consistency of ABN that contains knowledge pieces of rank 3

Fig.5.7 makes possible to enumerate all cases that may be met while dealing with external consistency problem solving for ABN that contains knowledge pieces of ranks no more than 3. An original ABN can contain any pairs, triples of knowledge pieces of rank 3. But it is a reason to preserve the standard formulation of a the set of constraints and does not distinct particular cases.

Thus, for general case of the task under consideration it is necessary to use constraints of the multitude $E^{(4)}$ which are presented in *Appendix A3* of the Report.

3. External consistency of a subset of knowledge pieces that contains a mixture of knowledge pieces of rank 2 and 3.

This case is reduced to the two previous ones. It is clear that if ABN contains at least one knowledge piece of rank 3 then a minimal external knowledge piece is of rank 4 what allows us to reduce this case to the task considered above.

5.7. Case study of Experts' Information Processing: Car Engine Diagnostics

In previous subsections of this section we considered theoretical basic of Algebraic Bayes' Networks (ABN). This structure was developed to be used as a formal framework to deal with expert's information to design knowledge and to integrate together experts' knowledge and other one which obtained via Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery from statistical databases. Peculiarity of expert's information and problem of its use for development of integrated knowledge base were considered in detail in Interim Report [IR-98]. In addition the problem was outlined in this Report in *Subsection 5.2*. Below we describe in brief and demonstrate technology of expert's information processing on the basis of the ABN framework.

Let $\Phi_0 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$, $x_i \in \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$ be a multitude of propositions that formalize domain factors, for example, those that determine status of performance of a device and $F(X) = F(x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k})$ be a logic formula from the set of well formed formulae given over Φ_0 where $X = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}$ — is a subset of propositions Φ_0 . It was justified in [IR-98] that if we intend to extract knowledge from an expert we have to take into account that expert is able to reply only on relatively simple and clear questions about dependencies existing in a domain. The dependencies he/she is able to talk about are usually relations given over no more than two or at best three variables. If we intend to use ABN as the formal framework for uncertain experts' knowledge processing and representation the above questions are about experts' assessment of probabilities of occurrence of those or others events given status of device performance, say, "no failure" and "failure".

ABN is partially ordered set of positive conjunctions of propositions from the set Φ_0 assigned by probabilities of truth. But in practice experts are able to talk not only about probabilities of positive conjunctions of propositions (complex random events). Instead, they may possess knowledge about probabilities of conjunction containing literals with and without negation, about probabilities of disjunctions that, in its turn, may comprise of positive and negative literals. For example, if we ask an

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expert about eventual probabilistic dependencies existing over two statements (factors, features), we may await replies about the following probabilities [IR-98]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(f_1) &= p(x_1), p(f_2) = p(x_2), p(f_3) = p(\neg x_1), p(f_4) = p(\neg x_2), \\
 p(f_5) &= p(x_1 x_2), p(f_6) = p(\neg x_1 x_2), p(f_7) = p(x_1 \neg x_2), \\
 p(f_8) &= p(\neg x_1 \neg x_2), p(f_9) = p(x_1 \vee x_2), p(f_{10}) = p(\neg x_1 \vee x_2), \\
 p(f_{11}) &= p(x_1 \vee \neg x_2), p(f_{12}) = p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

It is clear what probabilities we may deal with for the case of three-variables dependencies.

Therefore, one of the problem of expert's information processing is how to obtain ABN model if information consists of a number of experts' statements about probabilities of formulae given over arbitrary two-and three- proposition logic formulae. The corresponding equations and algorithms were considered in [IR-98]. In *Appendix 3* of this Report they are given again. Below we outline corresponding algorithms and demonstrate technology of experts' information processing aimed at ANB consistent formal model design.

5.7.1. Experts' Information: Car engine carburetor diagnostics.

Let we intend to design ABN aims at solving task of carburetor of a car engine diagnostics. We suppose that carburetor status can take two values: "no failure" and "failure". Below in the table 5.1 in the column #2 the denotation and physical sense of factors observed by driver are given. They are given as the statements of natural language in quotation marks. Symbol of negation " \neg " reflects the fact that corresponding statement in quotation marks is false. Columns #3 and #4 corresponds to the experts' assessment of the respective interval valued probabilities of truth of the statements given in the column #2 for status of carburetor "failure" and "no failure" respectively.

Table 5.1. Experts' information about subject domain "Car Engine Diagnostics: Carburetor".

No	Denotation of experts' expressions on natural language	$p(f / "failure") = p(f/1)$	$p(f / "no failure") = p(f/0)$
1	x_1 : "Choking of cold or warmed engine"	[0.2–0.6]	[0.0–0.3]
2	$\neg x_1$: \neg ("Choking of cold or warmed engine")	[0.4–0.8]	
3	x_2 : "Engine shut down before reaching nominal temperature"	[0–0.3]	
4	$\neg x_2$: \neg ("Engine shut down before reaching nominal temperature")	[0.6–1.0]	
5	x_3 : "Difficult firing of warmed up engine"	[0.4–0.8]	[0.2–0.4]
6	$\neg x_3$: \neg ("Difficult firing of warmed up engine")	[0.2–0.6]	
7	x_4 : "Unsteady engine run at no load"	[0.2–0.6]	[0.0–0.05]
8	$\neg x_4$: \neg ("Unsteady engine run at no load")	[0.3–0.7]	
9	x_5 : "Jerking movement at constant speed"	[0.1–0.4]	[0.0–0.1]
10	$\neg x_5$: \neg ("Jerking movement at constant speed")	[0.6–0.9]	
11	x_6 : "Jerking acceleration"	[0.2–0.5]	[0.1–0.3]
12	$\neg x_6$: \neg ("Jerking acceleration")	[0.5–0.8]	
13	x_7 : "Low acceleration at movement"	[0.6–0.9]	[0.1–0.3]
14	$\neg x_7$: \neg ("Low acceleration at movement")	[0.1–0.4]	[0.2–0.6]

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No	Denotation of experts' expressions on natural language	$p(f "failure") = p(f/1)$	$p(f "no failure") = p(f/0)$
15	x_8 : "Highest level of engine power is not achievable. Engine troubles at highest load"	[0.5–0.8]	
16	$\neg x_8$: \neg ("Highest level of engine power is not achievable. Engine troubles at highest load").	[0.2–0.5]	
17	x_9 : "Running of engine after shut down"	[0.0–0.3]	
18	$\neg x_9$: \neg ("Running of engine after shut down")	[0.7–1.0]	
19	x_{10} : Sputtering engine	[0.0–0.3]	
20	$\neg x_{10}$: \neg ("Sputtering engine")	[0.7–1.0]	
21	x_{11} : Abnormally high level of fuel consumption	[0.6–0.9]	
22	$\neg x_{11}$: \neg ("Abnormally high level of fuel consumption")	[0.1–0.4]	
23	$x_8 x_{11}$	[0.4–0.8]	
24	$x_6 x_8$	[0.1–0.5]	
25	$x_1 x_3$	[0.1–0.5]	
26	$x_7 x_8 x_{11}$	[0.2–0.5]	
27	$x_7 x_8$	[0.4–0.8]	
28	$x_7 x_{11}$	[0.4–0.8]	
29	$x_6 x_7 x_8$	[0.0–0.4]	
30	$x_6 x_7$	[0.1–0.6]	
31	$x_6 x_7 x_{11}$	[0.1–0.4]	
32	$x_6 x_{11}$	[0.1–0.5]	
33	$x_1 x_4$	[0.2–0.6]	
34	$x_3 x_5$	[0.1–0.6]	
35	$x_3 x_{11}$	[0.3–0.7]	

Remark: Empty positions of the tab.5.1 correspond to the probability interval [0,1].

In addition to the data given in tab.5.1 the following order relations given over probabilities of truth of the formulae were extracted from experts:

$$\begin{aligned} p(X_7) &\geq 2 \times p(X_9), \\ 5 \times p(X_{10} X_{11}) &\geq p(X_4). \end{aligned} \tag{5.24}$$

Data in tab.5.1 and order relation (5.24) forms experts' information that has to be taken into account for knowledge base design.

Let us note that below we demonstrate technology of ABN design and its consistency maintenance only for the experts' information related to the status "failure" of device "Carburetor", because this case is much more complex than the case related to the status "no failure".

The demonstrated below technology of experts' information processing to design knowledge base and corresponding numerical results are obtained on the basis of the developed software. The

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software was developed in the environment Visual C++ and Access 97 Data Base Management System.

5.7.2. Consistency maintenance Procedure: Numerical Results

The first step of processing of the data given in the tab.5.1 is *knowledge pieces extraction*. Printout of this step result is depicted in the fig.5.8. In addition the list of the knowledge pieces of rank 1, 2 and 3 is given in tab.5.2 in the second and third columns. It can be seen that experts' information leads to the Algebraic Bayes' Network comprising 10 knowledge pieces.

Next step according to the developed technology corresponds to the ABN local consistency maintenance that is calculation of the locally consistent probabilities assigned to the nodes of the ABN. To realize this step it is necessary to use equations given in *Appendix A3*. These equations are labeled as $E_1^{(2)} - E_9^{(2)}$ for knowledge pieces of rank 2 and as $E_1^{(3)} - E_{39}^{(3)}$ for knowledge piece of rank 3. Of course, it is necessary to use only those of them that correspond to the experts' information containing in the tab.5.1. One can see that in our case there is no necessity to use equations containing disjunctions of propositions.

Equations $E_1^{(2)} - E_9^{(2)}$ and $E_1^{(3)} - E_{39}^{(3)}$ have to be considered as constraints for pairs of linear programming tasks formulated for each node of the corresponding knowledge piece. This procedure was described in detail in Interim Report [IR-98]. The results of calculation of the truth probabilities of ABN nodes are given in the fifth column of tab.5.2. It should be noted that resulting ABN is locally consistent.

The third step is maintenance of the ABN *internal consistency*. The algorithm of this task solution was described above in *Subsection 5.6*. Let us remind that the algorithm aims at calculating of the coordinated probabilities for the nodes which belong to several (more than to one) knowledge pieces. The results of calculations are presented in the fifth column of tab.5.2.

The last step is checking and if necessary maintenance of the external consistency. This procedure was described in Interim Report [IR-98] and outlined in *Subsection 5.6* above. Results of implementation of the procedure are given in the sixth column of tab.5.2.

Table 5.2. Knowledge pieces extracted from experts' information and probabilities assigned to their nodes in the consequent steps of experts' information processing: Status "failure".

#	Knowledge piece maximal node	Nodes	Probability corresponding to the source data	Probability corresponding to the local consistency	Probability corresponding to the internal consistency	Probability corresponding to the external consistency
1	$x_6 x_7 x_8$	x_6	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]
		x_7	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_8	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]
		$x_6 x_7$	[0.1;0.6]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]
		$x_6 x_8$	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]
		$x_7 x_8$	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		$x_6 x_7 x_8$	[0.0;0.4]	[0.0;0.4]	[0.0;0.4]	[0.0;0.4]
2	$x_6 x_7 x_{11}$	x_6	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]
		x_7	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_{11}	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		$x_6 x_7$	[0.1;0.6]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]
		$x_6 x_{11}$	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]

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#	Knowledge piece maximal node	Nodes	Probability corresponding to the source data	Probability corresponding to the local consistency	Probability corresponding to the internal consistency	Probability corresponding to the external consistency
		x_7, x_{11}	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_6, x_7, x_{11}	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]
3	x_7, x_8, x_{11}	x_7	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_8	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]	[0.5;0.8]
		x_{11}	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_7, x_8	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_7, x_{11}	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_8, x_{11}	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_7, x_8, x_{11}	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]	[0.2;0.5]
4	x_4, x_{10}, x_{11}	x_4	[0.2;0.6]	[0.35;0.6]	[0.35;0.6]	[0.35;0.6]
		x_{10}	[0.0;0.3]	[0.09;0.3]	[0.09;0.3]	[0.09;0.3]
		x_{11}	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_4, x_{10}	{0.0, 1.0}	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]
		x_4, x_{11}	{0.0, 1.0}	[0.0;0.6]	[0.0;0.6]	[0.0;0.6]
		x_{10}, x_{11}	{0.0, 1.0}	[0.07;0.3]	[0.07;0.3]	[0.07;0.3]
		x_4, x_{10}, x_{11}	{0.0, 1.0}	[0.0;0.25]	[0.0;0.25]	[0.0;0.25]
5	x_1, x_3	x_1	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]
		x_3	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_1, x_3	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]	[0.1;0.5]
6	x_1, x_4	x_1	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]
		x_4	[0.2;0.6]	[0.3;0.6]	[0.35;0.6]	[0.35;0.6]
		x_1, x_4	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]	[0.2;0.6]
7	x_3, x_5	x_3	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_5	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]
		x_3, x_5	[0.1;0.6]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]	[0.1;0.4]
8	x_3, x_{11}	x_3	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]	[0.4;0.8]
		x_{11}	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_3, x_{11}	[0.3;0.7]	[0.3;0.7]	[0.3;0.7]	[0.3;0.7]
9	x_7, x_9	x_7	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]	[0.6;0.9]
		x_9	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]
		x_7, x_9	{0.0, 1.0}	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]
10	x_2	x_2	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]	[0.0;0.3]

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Experts' and formal knowledge processing.

Predicates		Formulas		
Name	Type	U	Probability	Order relations
X1	User	U	NOT(X1)	[0.40 : 0.80] U
X10	User	U	NOT(X10)	[0.70 : 1.00] U
X11	User	U	NOT(X11)	[0.10 : 0.40] U
X2	User	U	NOT(X2)	[0.60 : 1.00] U
X3	User	U	NOT(X3)	[0.20 : 0.60] U
X4	User	U	NOT(X4)	[0.30 : 0.70] U
X5	User	U	NOT(X5)	[0.60 : 0.90] U
X6	User	U	NOT(X6)	[0.50 : 0.80] U
X7	User	U	NOT(X7)	[0.10 : 0.40] U
X8	User	U	NOT(X8)	[0.20 : 0.50] U
X9	User	U	NOT(X9)	[0.70 : 1.00] U
			X1	[0.20 : 0.60] U
			X1 AND X3	[0.10 : 0.50] U
			X1 AND X4	[0.20 : 0.60] U
			X10	[0.00 : 0.30] U
			X11	[0.60 : 0.90] U
			X11 AND X3	[0.30 : 0.70] U
			X11 AND X6	[0.10 : 0.50] U
			X11 AND X6 AND X7	[0.10 : 0.40] U
			X11 AND X7	[0.40 : 0.80] U
			X11 AND X7 AND X8	[0.20 : 0.50] U
			X11 AND X8	[0.40 : 0.80] U
			X2	[0.00 : 0.30] U
			X3	[0.40 : 0.80] U
			X3 AND X5	[0.10 : 0.60] U
			X4	[0.20 : 0.60] U
			X5	[0.10 : 0.40] U

Fragments of knowledge

Know fragments	In Base
X1X3;	
X1X4;	
X10X11X4;	
X11X3;	
X11X6X7;	
X11X7X8;	
X2;	
X3X5;	
X6X7X8;	
X7X9;	

Analysis of a chosen fragment

ABN reconstruction and analysis

Add predicate

New formulae

Reconstruction of knowledge fragment

Exit

Formulas

Probability	Order relations
NOT(X7)	[0.10 : 0.40] U
NOT(X8)	[0.20 : 0.50] U
NOT(X9)	[0.70 : 1.00] U
X1	[0.20 : 0.60] U
X1 AND X3	[0.10 : 0.50] U
X1 AND X4	[0.20 : 0.60] U
X10	[0.00 : 0.30] U
X11	[0.60 : 0.90] U
X11 AND X3	[0.30 : 0.70] U
X11 AND X6	[0.10 : 0.50] U
X11 AND X6 AND X7	[0.10 : 0.40] U
X11 AND X7	[0.40 : 0.80] U
X11 AND X7 AND X8	[0.20 : 0.50] U
X11 AND X8	[0.40 : 0.80] U
X2	[0.00 : 0.30] U
X3	[0.40 : 0.80] U
X3 AND X5	[0.10 : 0.60] U
X4	[0.20 : 0.60] U
X5	[0.10 : 0.40] U
X6	[0.20 : 0.50] U
X6 AND X7	[0.10 : 0.60] U
X6 AND X7 AND X8	[0.00 : 0.40] U
X6 AND X8	[0.10 : 0.50] U
X7	[0.60 : 0.90] U
X7 AND X8	[0.40 : 0.80] U
X8	[0.50 : 0.80] U
X9	[0.00 : 0.30] U

Formulas

Probability	Order relations
X7>=2.00 * (X9)	User
5.00 * (X10 AND X11)>=X4)	User

New formulae

Reconstruction of knowledge fragment

New formulae

Reconstruction of knowledge fragment

Fig.5.8. Printouts of experts' source information and of results of extraction knowledge pieces from experts' information

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In tab.5.2 the lines of gray color corresponds to the probabilities which values are changed compared to the information extracted from experts.

5.8. Consistent integration of statistical and expert information within diagnostic model

Algebraic Bayes' Network is a structure for representation of any information under uncertainty. In many practically interesting cases such a way of uncertain knowledge specification is advantageous. Therefore expert information is not only type of information which be represented consistently in the frameworks of ABN. It was mentioned in *Section 4* that knowledge extracted from statistical data contains a lot of sources of uncertainty as well. In fact, frequently we have sampling of statistical data of very small size, in particular, within applications like new hardware diagnostic model design that is the subject of this Project. As a rule probabilistic measure of any statement calculated on the basis of statistical database and/or extracted from expert can be estimated only as confidence interval because point-wise estimations of a probability in the most cases is very inaccuracy and unreliable.

Knowledge extracted from statistical data in a form of logic formulae assigned interval probabilities of truth (they were called classifying predicates in *Section 4*) can be represented in the framework of Algebraic Bayes' Networks like it was described in this section for expert information. Hence, all advantages of ABN-based representation and processing of expert information are valid for knowledge extracted from statistical data. The main advantage of ABN is that statistically estimated confidence intervals combined with experts' assessments of interval probabilities of correlating variables (statements, features, factors) may be narrowed remarkably what corresponds to more high accuracy of a target diagnostic model. A conclusion is that ABN is a convenient framework to join knowledge extracted from experts' information and one assessed over statistical data.

Applied to the new hardware diagnostic model development the above advantage of ABN formal model plays a very significant role. The reason to ascertain its benefit in such application is obvious: insufficiency of statistical data and insufficiency and uncertainty of expert information. To be integrated together in a consistent way within the framework of ABN, they are able to improve significantly diagnostic model.

6. Contribution of the Research and Perspective Future Works

6.1. Contribution of the research

The research presented in this report is aimed at development of mathematical models associated with the technology for information based health assessment system and numerical verification of these models. Up to the time when the real statistical database is accumulated we need mathematical model to generate adequate database that makes it possible to verify developed algorithms and corresponding technology and to do further research aimed at specializing algorithms for new concrete type of device. Of course, each new device will require to develop "ad hoc" model. Nevertheless, the general principles and ideas of development task related model may be borrowed from the Dynamic Data model developed in this research and presented in *Section 2*.

However the major task of this research is development of technology for the accurate assessment of the probability of failure of hardware, such as avionics, on the basis of its known «history of abuse» by environmental and operational factors and assessment of the residual performance resource. The successful solution of both problems allows us to forecast the probability of failure during a forthcoming sortie and to assess the residual performance resource thus providing a quantitative basis for mission planning and timely maintenance as well as preventing emergencies. This application cannot be regarded as a conventional reliability problem because classical reliability does not view exposure to specific environmental conditions and operational factors as a main cause of failures. The problem stated herein does not constitute a conventional prognostic task also because the failure may not occur at all. The problem statement considered in the Report was for the first formulated in the paper [Skormin et al -97]. Such a problem statement is prompted by the modern concept of maintenance known as the «service when needed».

It is expected that the prognostic model presented in this Report is developed on the basis of information downloaded from dedicated monitoring systems of flight-critical hardware and stored in a database. Therefore, the stated problem is related to the area of tasks of Data Mining and KDD ([Frawly et al -91], [Matheus et al 93], [Fayyad et al-95-1], [Fayyad et al 95-2], [Bradley et al-98-1]). According to the existing topics of Data Mining prognostic model design is a classification problem ([Fayyad et al 95-1]). Classification problem of such kind is well known and is being investigated at least during four decades ([Fukunaga-72], [Patrick-72], [Tou et al -74], [Ryin-76]).

Nevertheless, a number of principle tasks of classification are still of great interest and deserve further investigation. For example, a hot area of classification is the so-called problem of feature informativity and algorithms of their selection as well as methods and algorithms of learning for synthesis of classification rule [Bradley et al -98-2]. In addition, there exist a number of problems very important from the applications point of view that still do not have efficient solutions. For example, development of classification models based on Data Mining and KDD for the case when databases contain columns measured on both continuous and discrete scales.

Let us summarize the new results presented in this research and described in [IR-98] and in this Report that constitute its main contribution to the applied classification problem solving and to the area of Data Mining and KDD.

1. The basis of the classification model proposed in the Report is formed by so-called classification predicates. Firstly the idea was proposed by V. Skormin and L. Popyack in [Skormin et al -97]. They are associated with subspaces of factors of low dimension, in particular, with 2-d subspaces. Classification predicates are defined over the entire factor space. Each classification predicate divides the latter into two regions according its truth values («*true*» and «*false*») in such way that each region contains mostly realizations of one of two clusters of data. A classification predicate is *true* within a region of the factor space bounded by a set of separation functions of two arguments, which are particular components of the entire factor space. For a 2-d separation bound, the efficient procedure resulting in

6. Contribution of the Research and Perspective Future Works

optimal separation functions of arbitrary shape (including non-convex case) and associated classification predicates is investigated. This procedure is based on the visualization of cluster projections onto arbitrary 2-d subspaces, and is implemented in an interactive software tool developed in the framework of this research. This procedure provides a user an opportunity to draw any separation rule manually utilizing its approximation by a polygon, i.e. an arbitrary linear spline. Moreover, the regions established by this procedure could be many-connected and non-convex. A user is required to draw a separation bound while the software tool generates the associated classification predicate automatically.

2. A decision tree-like model of the classification procedure is proposed and implemented in numerically efficient software. The peculiarity of decision trees presented in Interim Report [IR-98] in and this Report is that it is binary and consists of a number of ranked classification predicates. Each predicate is associated with a node of the tree and subsets of database realizations that belong to the region of factor space where corresponding classification predicate is «true». The above regions of factor space and subsets of realizations are ranked. The set of regions and corresponding subsets of realizations associated with the leaves of a decision tree are not overlapping and their combination covers the entire factor space and the set of realizations respectively. The last property provides an opportunity to introduce, in a natural way, a set of elementary events and the corresponding probabilistic space that constitutes a model for the assessment of the probability of failure of hardware, i.e. to solve the target task. In addition, the notion of meta-tree used in this research and described in section 4 makes it possible to solve classification task for arbitrary number of clusters of data without any change of the technology of the above decision tree design.

3. The research presented in this paper is aimed at designing a model for reliable assessment of the probability of failure. A pure statistical approach in the case of a small amount of training and testing data is not sufficient for providing the necessary accuracy and reliability of failure prognosis. Therefore, this paper suggests utilizing a number of different decision trees that are supposed to be used to form a more accurate collective decision. Each decision tree consists of a number of ranked classification predicates associated with 2-d subspaces of factors. The most important requirement is that each decision tree has to be associated with different subspaces of factors. Information redundancy is a reason for a possible accuracy enhancement of the assessment of the probability of failure. To employ the idea of redundancy, a special procedure of joint processing of the decisions obtained by individual decision trees is investigated. It is based on the concept of so-called «Algebraic Bayes' Networks» developed by the author ([Gorodetski-92], [Gorodetski et al -97]). In fact, estimation enhancement is achieved due to utilizing the background knowledge. This method is demonstrated numerically. Additional utilization of interval mathematics methods to calculate the posterior probability of failure on the basis of Bayes' formula makes it possible to obtain the precise upper (minimal) bound of the target probability.

It should be noted that the classification rule development technique presented could be efficiently used in a wide area of applied tasks of Data Mining and KDD.

4. The utilization of the concept of a classification predicate defined over subspaces of low dimensions makes possible to develop a totally new approach to the task of rules extraction from databases in the most complex case. One such case is the situation when a database contains columns specified both in continuous and discrete scales. It is well known that now this task is one of the key problems of Data Mining and KDD. Any known and conventionally used approach aiming at the creation of a knowledge base by «mining» a database containing both continuous and discrete data is based on direct discretization of continuous (real valued) data and results in substantial dimension increase of the factor space. Consequently, such an approach leads to inefficient algorithms and can not be recognized as a satisfactory one even if a discretization is made optimally.

As an alternative, an approach based on the utilization of the concept of classification predicate makes it possible to avoid artificial discretization at all. Actually, a classification predicate itself defined over a subset of continuous factors (features) can be considered as a discrete specification of continuous data. A classification predicate can be considered as a

6. Contribution of the Research and Perspective Future Works

new feature which represents the same data in a new way. There exist a number of known approaches to cope with the task of extraction rules from database with columns specified in discrete scales [see, for example, [Michalski et al -81], [Quinlan-83], [Michalski-90]]. Hence, the concept of classification predicate makes it possible to solve a number of difficult Data Mining and KDD problems in an efficient new way.

One more original approach to solve the task of rule extraction from learning data was proposed by author of this Report [Gorodetski et al -96]. It was described in brief in Appendix of the Interim Report [IR-98].

5. Algebraic Bayes' Networks theory developed by author and presented in Interim Report [IR-98] and in this one possess a number of advantages regarding to the application that is the subject of this research and regarding to a more wide area of Knowledge Engineering. The area of its applications is dealing with uncertain and sub-defined data including expert's knowledge.

6.2. Proposals for future research

This research may be considered as a step in the development of technology for information-based health assessment system design. Of course it is not able to solve a number of problems associated with this very important and difficult task. However, there may be pointed out a number of theoretical and applied problems that in my opinion has to be a subject of research in the framework of health assessment system design. They are as follows:

1. *Mathematical model for mining knowledge from database of multi-scale data structures.* In compare with the model developed in this research, the proposed research aims at development a mathematical model of technology which integrates (1) processing real valued database resulting in obtaining classification predicates and (2) processing discrete valued data resulting in extraction rules from both real valued and discrete valued data. This research may aim at development a mathematical basis for advanced data mining technology applicable for wide area of information-based health assessment systems.
2. *Development of software tool prototype aimed at supporting an interactive technology of information-based health assessment system.* Development of such tool could make it possible to investigate numerically the pros and cons of any mathematical basis, its advantages and deficiencies. This tool may be used to prepare future developers to implement technology. It might be a first step to development of powerful multi-purpose software tool for utilization in the area of information -based health assessment systems design.
3. *Advanced statistical and logical models for extracting sensitive patterns from database.* This mathematical model aims at solving such practically important prognostic related tasks as:
 - ranking particular environmental conditions as factors responsible for general and particular types of failures,
 - determination of particular groups of environmental conditions ("patterns") and assessment of their combined effects on failures in general and on particular types of failures,
 - justification of the development of devices protecting from adverse environmental conditions,
 - development of the recommendations on the avoidance of the combined effects of adverse conditions.

Conventionally these tasks are solved by methods of mathematical statistics which uses ideas from component and factor analyses. But the latter are not appropriate in many practical situations. In addition, in these tasks it is necessary to deal with continuous and discrete factors what takes to develop a more powerful mathematically justified approach. It should be noted that this problem now is the subject of intensive research in Data Mining area.

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Appendix A1. Trajectories of Failure Development

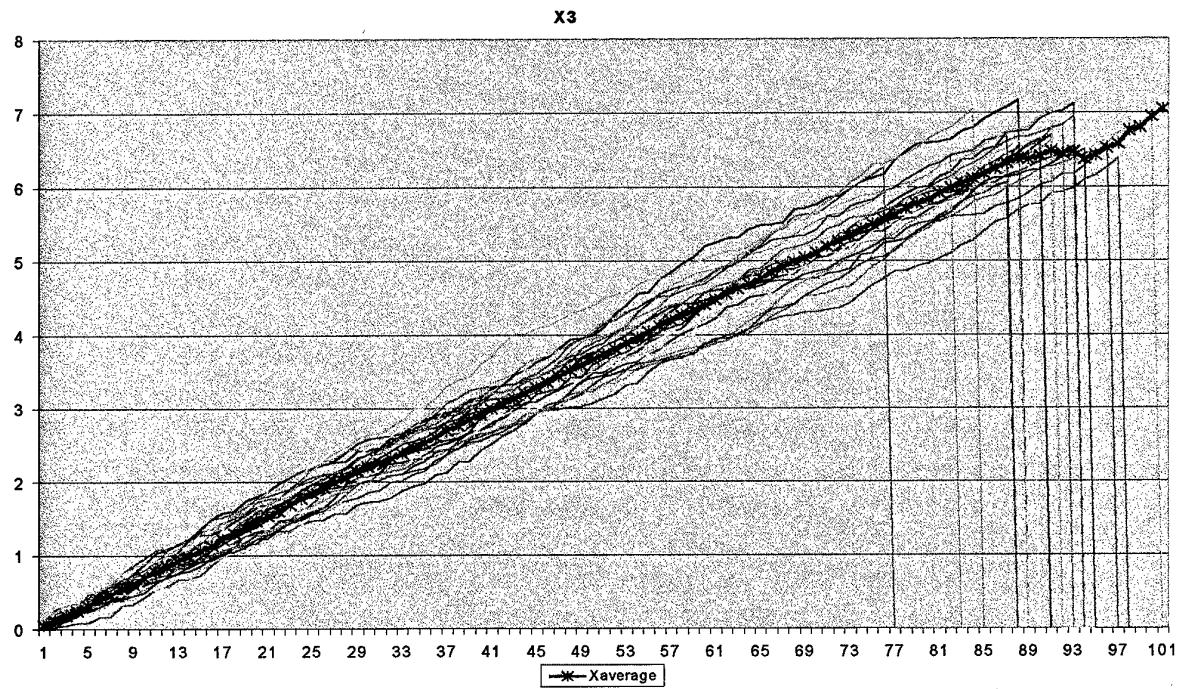


Fig.A1.1. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_3 as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

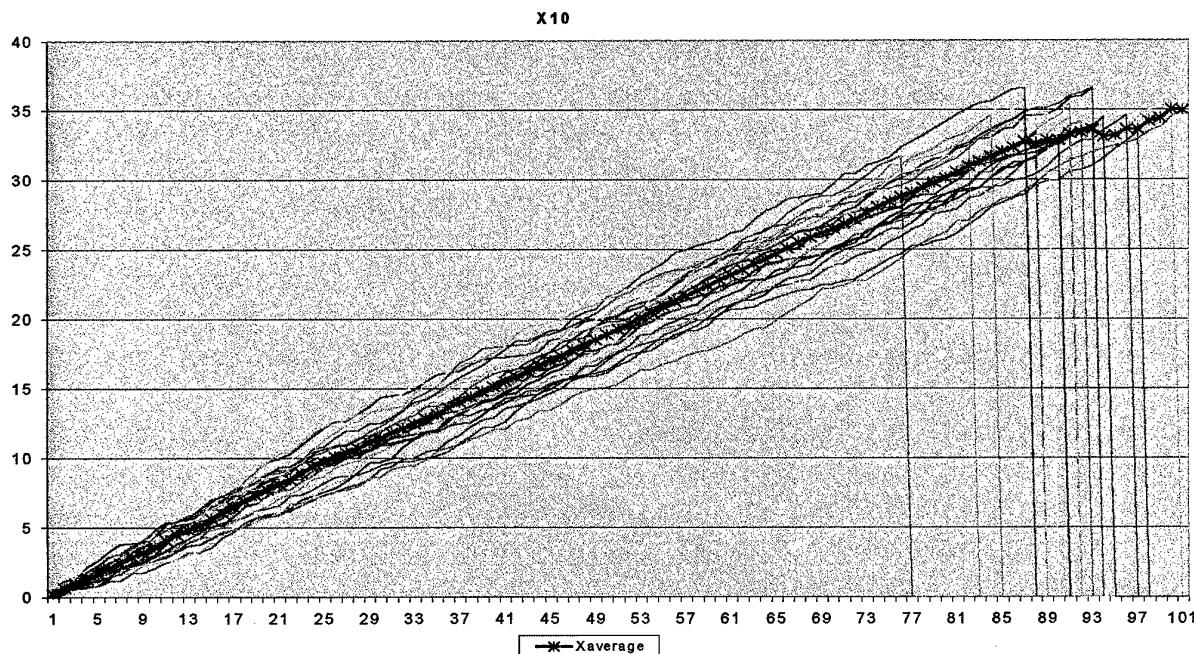


Fig.A1.2. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{10} as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

Appendix A1. Trajectories of failure development

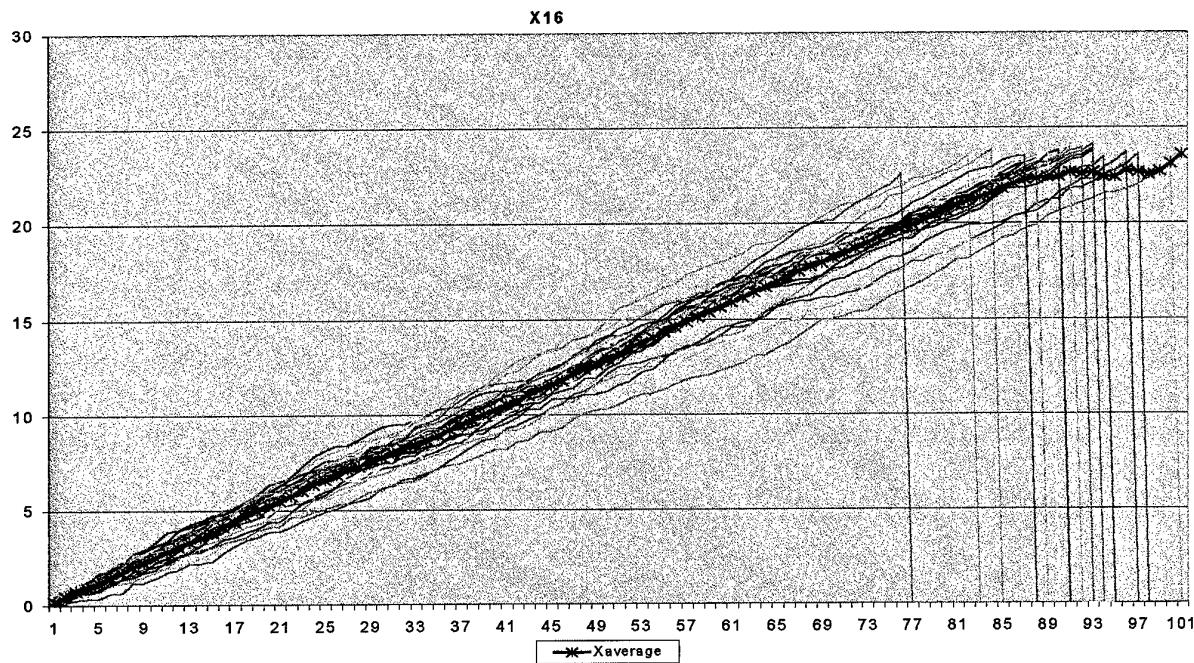


Fig.A1.3. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{16} as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

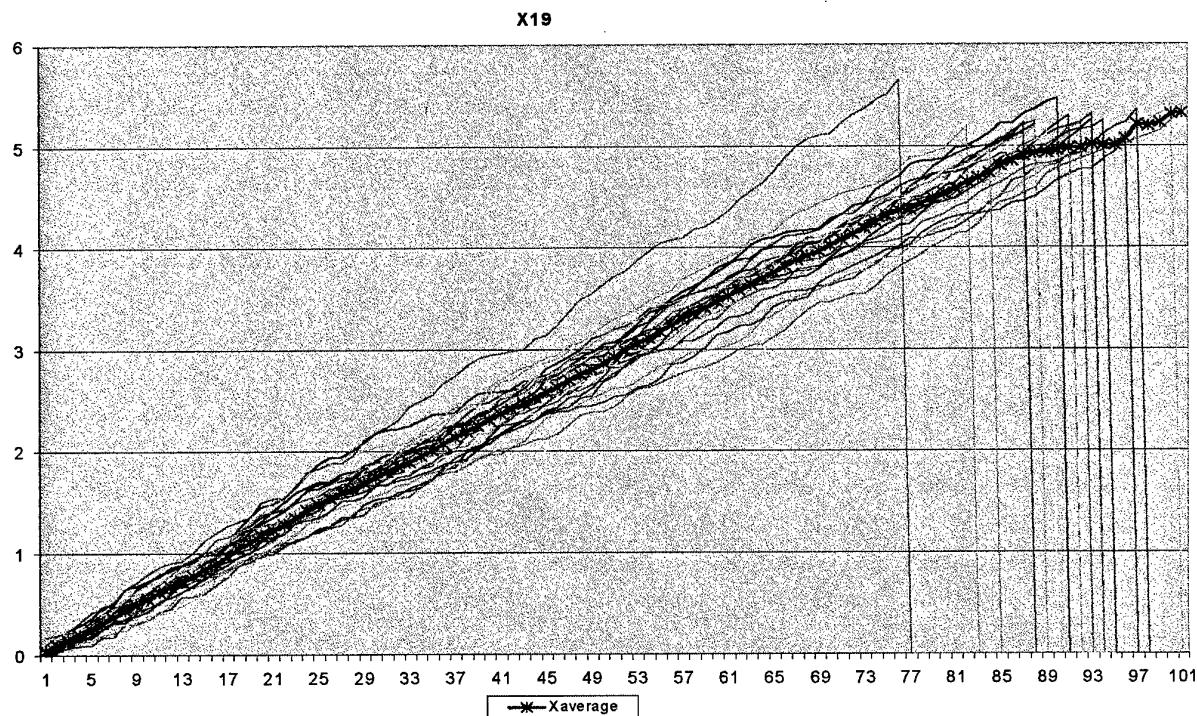


Fig.A1.4. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{19} as the functions of the number of aircraft sortie

Appendix A1. Trajectories of failure development

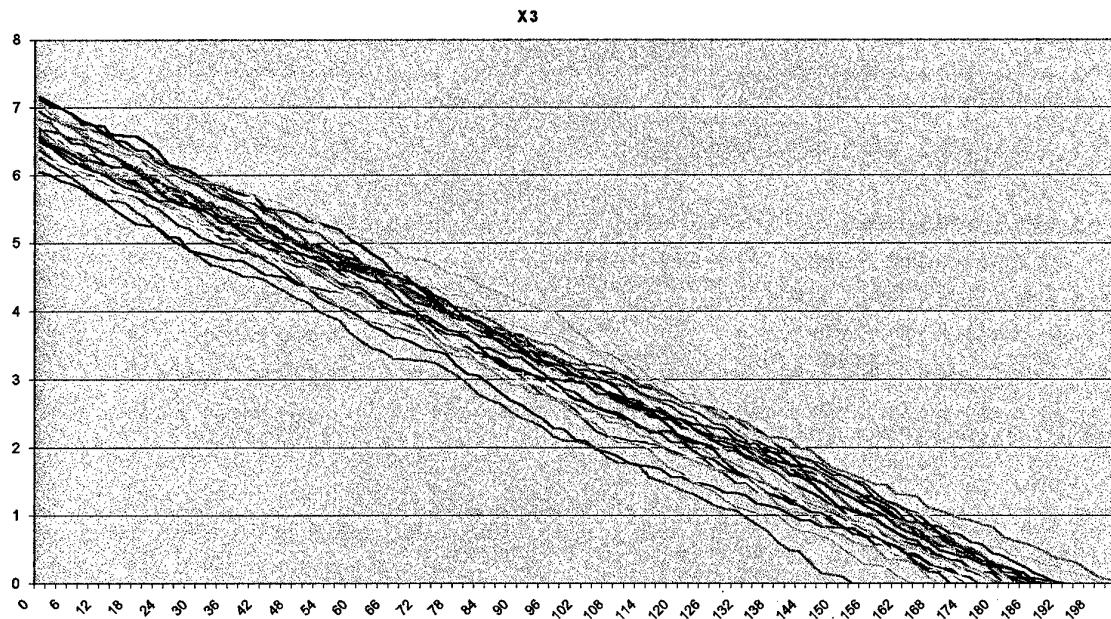


Fig.A1.5. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_3 as the functions of residual performance resource

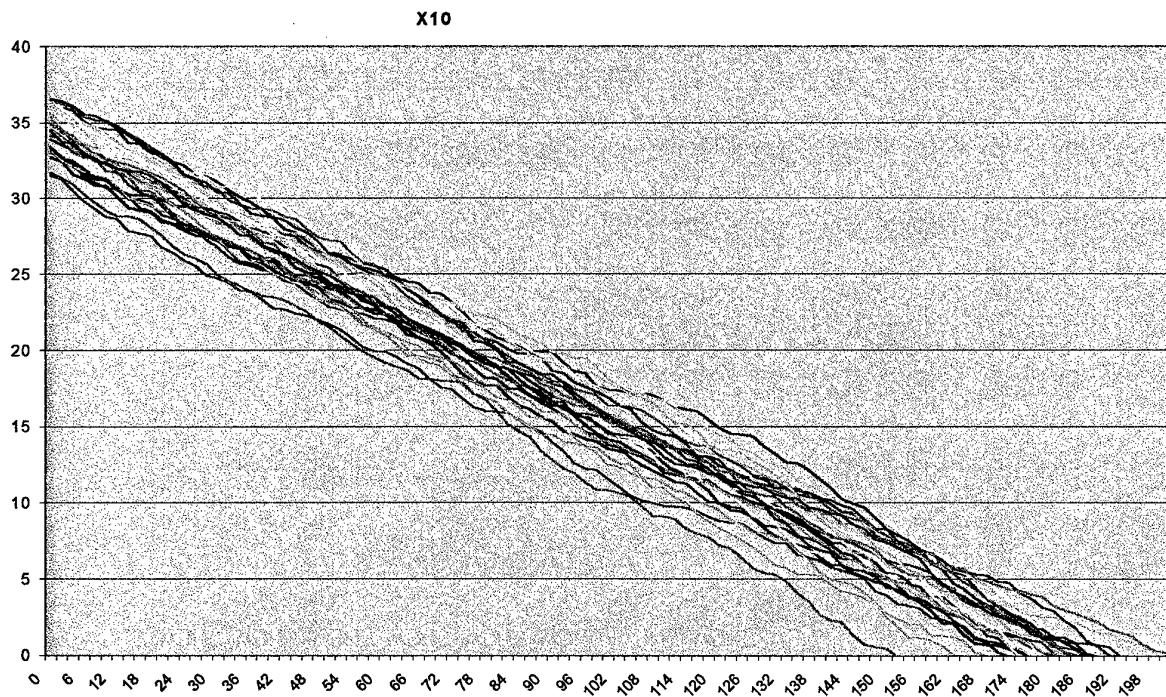


Fig.A1.6. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{10} as the functions of residual performance resource

Appendix A1. Trajectories of failure development

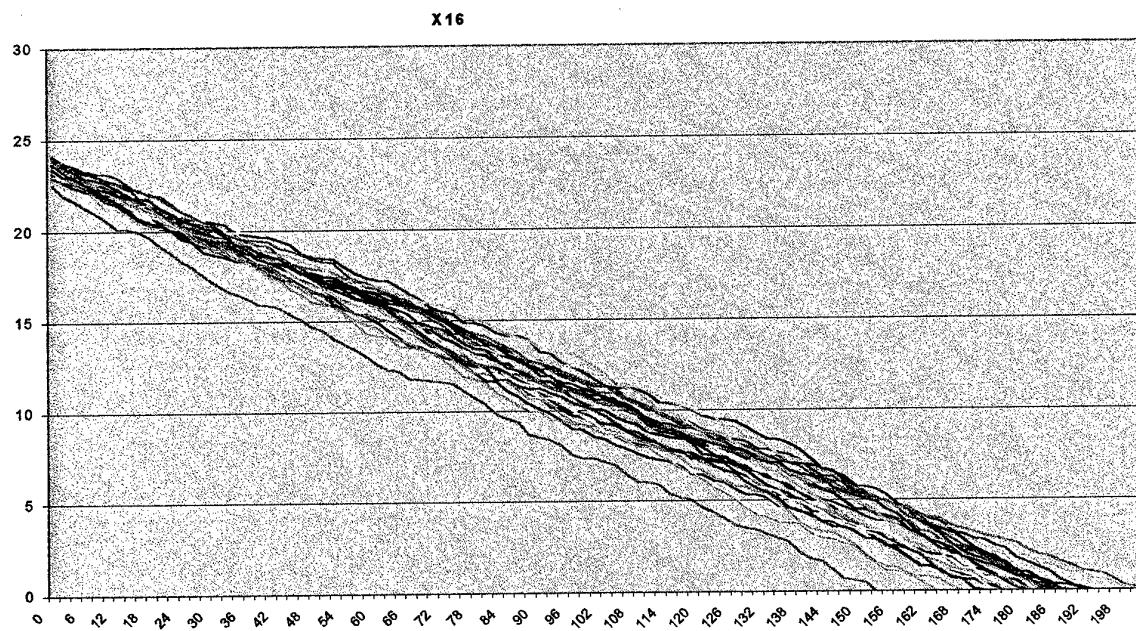


Fig.A1.7. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{16} as the functions of residual performance resource

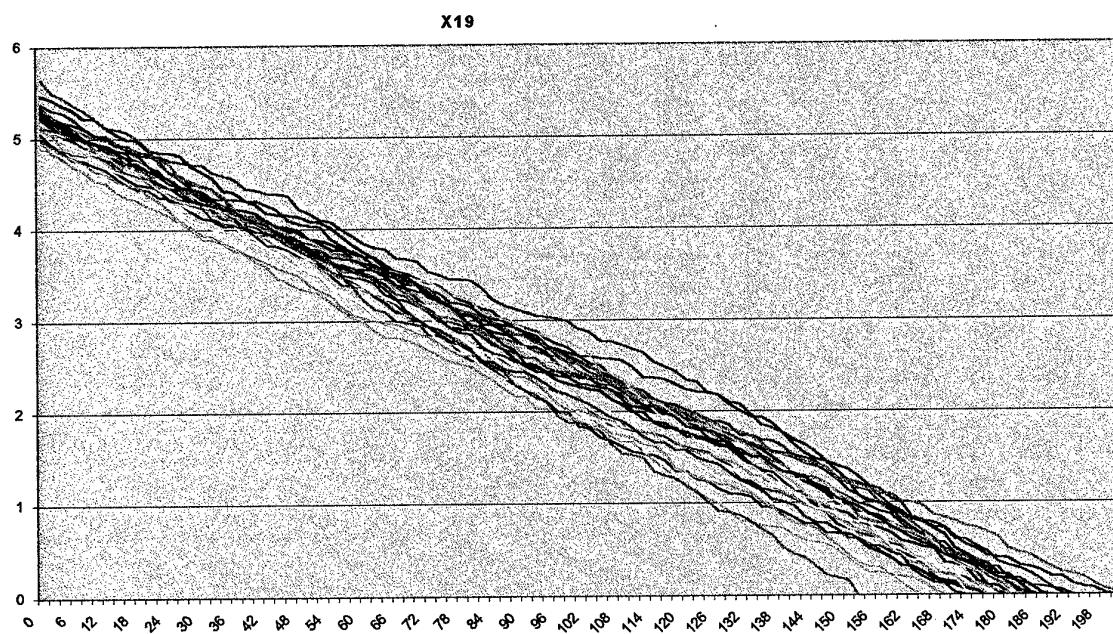


Fig.A1.8. Realization of trajectories of development of adverse exposure X_{19} as the functions of residual performance resource

Appendix A2. Learning and Testing Data

Learning data

Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

A23

Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

Testing data

Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

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Appendix A2. Learning and testing data

Results of testing decision trees and results of testing of voting procedures

No.	Star (1)	Dec- tree (4.9)	Dec- tree (4.9)	Dec- tree (4.9)	Young 2 of 3	Young at least 1	No.	Star status	Dec- tree (4.8)	Dec- tree (4.9)	Dec- tree (4.9)	Young 2 of 3	Young at least 1	
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	1	1	1	1	1	43	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	1	1	1	0	1	1	44	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	1	1	1	1	1	1	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	51	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
14	1	1	1	1	1	1	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	1	1	0	1	1	1	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	1	1	1	1	1	54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
18	0	1	0	0	0	1	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	1	1	1	1	1	1	58	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
21	1	1	0	1	1	1	59	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0	0	0	61	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
24	1	1	1	1	1	1	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	1	1	0	1	1	63	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
26	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	1	1	1	1	1	1	65	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
28	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	0	0	0	0	0	0	68	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
31	0	0	0	0	0	0	69	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
32	1	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	1	1	1	1	1	1	71	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
34	0	1	1	1	1	1	72	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
35	0	1	1	1	1	1	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	0	0	0	0	0	0	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	1	1	1	1	1	1								

Appendix A3. Algebraic Bayes' Network related equations

A3.1. Equations over probabilities of logic formulae for knowledge pieces of rank 2 and 3 used to process experts' information to design locally consistent ABN

Knowledge piece of rank 2

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_1^{(2)}: p(x_1) + p(\neg x_1) &= 1, \\
 E_2^{(2)}: p(x_2) + p(\neg x_2) &= 1, \\
 E_3^{(2)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) + p(\neg x_1 \neg x_2) &= 1, \\
 E_4^{(2)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(\neg x_1 x_2) &= 0, \\
 E_5^{(2)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 \neg x_2) &= 0, \\
 E_6^{(2)}: p(x_1 \vee x_2) &= p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2), \\
 E_7^{(2)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee x_2) &= 1 - p(x_1) + p(x_1 x_2), \\
 E_8^{(2)}: p(x_1 \vee \neg x_2) &= 1 - p(x_2) + p(x_1 x_2), \\
 E_9^{(2)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2) &= 1 - p(x_1 x_2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, in the two- proposition case only three unknowns have to be calculated. To transform experts' data to the ABN structure it is enough to select as unknowns the following ones: $p(x_1)$, $p(x_2)$, $p(x_1 x_2)$.

Knowledge piece of rank 3

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_1^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(\neg x_1) &= 1, \\
 E_2^{(3)}: p(x_2) + p(\neg x_2) &= 1, \\
 E_3^{(3)}: p(x_3) + p(\neg x_3) &= 1, \\
 E_4^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) + p(\neg x_1 \neg x_2) &= 1, \\
 E_5^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_3) - p(x_1 x_3) + p(\neg x_1 \neg x_3) &= 1, \\
 E_6^{(3)}: p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_2 x_3) + p(\neg x_2 \neg x_3) &= 1, \\
 E_7^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) + \\
 &\quad + p(\neg x_1 \neg x_2 \neg x_3) = 1, \\
 E_8^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(\neg x_1 x_2) &= 0, \\
 E_9^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 \neg x_2) &= 0, \\
 E_{10}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(\neg x_1 x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{11}^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_1 \neg x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{12}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_2 x_3) - p(\neg x_2 x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{13}^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 \neg x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{14}^{(3)}: p(x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(\neg x_1 x_2 x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{15}^{(3)}: p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 \neg x_2 x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{16}^{(3)}: p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 \neg x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{17}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(\neg x_1 \neg x_2 x_3) &= 0, \\
 E_{18}^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(\neg x_1 x_2 \neg x_3) &= 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$E_{19}^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) - p(x_1 \neg x_2 \neg x_3) = 0,$$

$$E_{20}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee x_2) = p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2),$$

$$E_{21}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee x_2) = 1 - p(x_1) + p(x_1x_2),$$

$$E_{22}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee \neg x_2) = 1 - p(x_2) + p(x_1x_2),$$

$$E_{23}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2) = 1 - p(x_1x_2),$$

$$E_{24}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee x_3) = p(x_1) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3),$$

$$E_{25}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee x_3) = 1 - p(x_1) + p(x_1x_3),$$

$$E_{26}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_3) + p(x_1x_3),$$

$$E_{27}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_1x_3),$$

$$E_{28}^{(3)}: p(x_2 \vee x_3) = p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{29}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_2 \vee x_3) = 1 - p(x_2) + p(x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{30}^{(3)}: p(x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_3) + p(x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{31}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{32}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) = p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{33}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) = 1 - p(x_1) + p(x_1x_2) + p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{34}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3) = 1 - p(x_2) + p(x_1x_2) + p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{35}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_3) + p(x_1x_3) + p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{36}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3) = 1 - p(x_1x_2) + p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{37}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_1x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{38}^{(3)}: p(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3),$$

$$E_{39}^{(3)}: p(\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_3) = 1 - p(x_1x_2x_3).$$

Thus, in the three-proposition case only seven unknowns have to be calculated. To transform experts' data to the ABN structure it is enough to select as unknowns the following ones: $p(x_1)$, $p(x_2)$, $p(x_3)$, $p(x_1x_2)$, $p(x_1x_3)$, $p(x_2x_3)$ and $p(x_1x_2x_3)$.

A3.2. Conditions of Consistency of knowledge Pieces of rank 2, 3 and 4 expressed in terms of positive conjunctions

Conditions of Consistency of knowledge piece of rank 2

$$C_1^{(2)}: p(x_1) \leq 1,$$

$$C_2^{(2)}: p(x_2) \leq 1,$$

$$C_3^{(2)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \leq 1,$$

$$C_4^{(2)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$$

$$C_5^{(2)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$$

$$p(x_i) \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, \quad p(x_1x_2) \geq 0.$$

Conditions of Consistency of knowledge piece of rank 3

$$C_1^{(3)}: p(x_1) \leq 1,$$

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$C_2^{(3)}: p(x_2) \leq 1,$
 $C_3^{(3)}: p(x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_4^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \leq 1,$
 $C_5^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_6^{(3)}: p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_7^{(3)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_8^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$
 $C_9^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$
 $C_{10}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{11}^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{12}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{13}^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{14}^{(3)}: p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{15}^{(3)}: p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{16}^{(3)}: p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{17}^{(3)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{18}^{(3)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $C_{19}^{(3)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$
 $p(x_i) \geq 0, i = 1, 2, 3, p(x_i x_j) \geq 0, i, j = 1, 2, 3, i > j, p(x_i x_2 x_3) \geq 0.$

Conditions of Consistency of knowledge piece of rank 4

$C_1^{(4)}: p(x_1) \leq 1,$
 $C_2^{(4)}: p(x_2) \leq 1,$
 $C_3^{(4)}: p(x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_4^{(4)}: p(x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_5^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \leq 1,$
 $C_6^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_7^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_4) - p(x_1x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_8^{(4)}: p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_9^{(4)}: p(x_2) + p(x_4) - p(x_2x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_{10}^{(4)}: p(x_3) + p(x_4) - p(x_3x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_{11}^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_3) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \leq 1,$
 $C_{12}^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_4) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_4) - p(x_2x_4) + p(x_1x_2x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_{13}^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_3) + p(x_4) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_4) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_1x_3x_4) \leq 1,$
 $C_{14}^{(4)}: p(x_2) + p(x_3) + p(x_4) - p(x_2x_3) - p(x_2x_4) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_2x_3x_4) \leq 1,$

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$$C_{15}^{(4)}: p(x_1) + p(x_2) + p(x_3) + p(x_4) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_4) - p(x_2x_3) - \\ - p(x_2x_4) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_1x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_4) + p(x_1x_3x_4) + p(x_2x_3x_4) - \\ - p(x_1x_2x_3x_4) \leq 1,$$

$$C_{16}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{17}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{18}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{19}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{20}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_1x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{21}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{22}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{23}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{24}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{25}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{26}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{27}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{28}^{(4)}: p(x_2x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{29}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{30}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{31}^{(4)}: p(x_2x_4) - p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{32}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_4) - p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{33}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{34}^{(4)}: p(x_3x_4) - p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{35}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_4) - p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{36}^{(4)}: p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{37}^{(4)}: p(x_3x_4) - p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{38}^{(4)}: p(x_2x_4) - p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{39}^{(4)}: p(x_2x_3) - p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{40}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{41}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_2x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{42}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_3) + p(x_1x_2x_3) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{43}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_1x_4) - p(x_2x_4) + p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{44}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_2x_4) + p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{45}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_2) - p(x_1x_4) + p(x_1x_2x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{46}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_1x_4) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{47}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

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$$C_{48}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1x_3) - p(x_1x_4) + p(x_1x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{49}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_2x_4) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{50}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_2x_3) - p(x_3x_4) + p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{51}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_2x_3) - p(x_2x_4) + p(x_2x_3x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$p(x_i) \geq 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \quad p(x_i x_j) \geq 0, \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4, \quad i > j,$$

$$p(x_i x_j x_k) \geq 0, \quad i, j, k = 1, 2, 3, 4, \quad i > j > k, \quad p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{52}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{53}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_2 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{54}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{55}^{(4)}: p(x_2 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{56}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{57}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{58}^{(4)}: p(x_1 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_4) - p(x_1 x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{59}^{(4)}: p(x_2 x_3) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3) - p(x_2 x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{60}^{(4)}: p(x_2 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_4) - p(x_2 x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{61}^{(4)}: p(x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_3 x_4) - p(x_2 x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{62}^{(4)}: p(x_1) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_1 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_2 x_4) + \\ + p(x_1 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{63}^{(4)}: p(x_2) - p(x_1 x_2) - p(x_2 x_3) - p(x_2 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_2 x_4) + \\ + p(x_2 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{64}^{(4)}: p(x_3) - p(x_1 x_3) - p(x_2 x_3) - p(x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_3) + p(x_1 x_3 x_4) + \\ + p(x_2 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$C_{65}^{(4)}: p(x_4) - p(x_1 x_4) - p(x_2 x_4) - p(x_3 x_4) + p(x_1 x_2 x_4) + p(x_1 x_3 x_4) + \\ + p(x_2 x_3 x_4) - p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0,$$

$$p(x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4) \geq 0.$$